



IHB File No.S3/3055

CIRCULAR LETTER 67/2006
5 October 2006

E-Navigation

References: A. IHB CL43/2006 dated 29 May
B. IHB CL54/2006 dated 24 July

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As reported at Reference A the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) placed a new agenda Item, "To Develop an E-Navigation Strategy", on the work programme of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV). At Reference B the IHB reported that NAV 52 had given initial consideration to this subject during its meeting in July 2006 and had established a Correspondence Group (CG) under the chairmanship of the UK to consider this matter and report back to NAV 53 in 2007. The CG are also required to submit a paper to the Sub-Committee on Communications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR) outlining those issues which need to be considered by COMSAR.
2. As ECDIS and ENCs will form a core element of any E-Navigation Strategy this matter is of importance to IHO Member States. This matter was discussed at CHRIS 18 and the IHB is participating in the work of the CG.
3. The International Association of Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) have established an E-Navigation Committee and the IHB or a MS will represent the IHO at its meetings. The first meeting took place from 18 - 22 September in Paris and the IHB thanks the Hydrographer of France, Ingénieur général Gilles Bessero, for making Ingénieur général Jean Laporte available to represent the IHO.
4. Documents on this subject are being placed on the IHO web site www.iho.int where there is a link on the home page to "E-Navigation documents". MS are requested to review these documents at regular intervals and pass any comments that they may have to the IHB.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President