



IHB File No. S3/8152

**CIRCULAR LETTER 71/2006
23 October 2006**

ENC Production, Availability and Coverage

- References:
- A. IHB CL16/2004 dated 18 February
 - B. IHB CL68/2004 dated 12 October
 - C. IHB CL9/2005 dated 19 January
 - D. IHB CL28/2005 dated 14 March
 - E. WEND Letter 1/2006 dated 7 March

Dear Hydrographer,

The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) at its 82nd meeting in November / December this year is expected to adopt MSC resolutions amending the Codes for High Speed and Dynamically Stabilised Craft (HSC and DSC) to introduce mandatory carriage requirements for ECDIS. Craft constructed on or after the 1 July 2008 will have to be fitted with ECDIS on build and craft constructed before 1 July 2008 will have to be fitted with ECDIS by 1 July 2010.

The IMO Sub-Committee on the Safety of Navigation (NAV) has been tasked by the MSC to consider the possible mandatory carriage requirement for ECDIS on other classes of ship and is due to report to the MSC in 2008. During its preliminary consideration of this matter NAV concluded that any carriage requirement should be harmonised with the availability of ENCs and reiterated its invitation to the IHO and Members of the Sub-Committee to continue progressing ENC development. This is a clear challenge to the IHO and its Member States to provide adequate ENC coverage by the time of the adoption of a mandatory carriage requirement. This challenge is also clearly expressed in IHO WEND principle 2.3, which says that Member States will strive to provide the necessary coverage by the dates established by IMO or seek agreement with other States for the production of ENCs on their behalf. Any Member State may seek further assistance from the IHB. It is requested that any offers / acceptance of ENC assistance be notified to the IHB in order that the "Assistance in ENC Production" document on the WEND web page: www.iho.int > Committees > WEND can be kept up to date.

The IHB has sought information regarding ENC availability from Member States and Regional Hydrographic Commissions on several occasions (References A – E) however in all debates within IMO the IHO is requested to provide the latest data regarding current and future availability of ENCs and must therefore ensure that it is in a position to provide both

authoritative information on the current situation and reliable forecasts as to future availability. For this reason and particularly given the impending mandatory carriage requirement for HSC and DSC **ALL Member States** are requested to complete the attached questionnaires and return them to the IHB by **31 January 2007 at the latest**. Where the answer to a question is “Partially” Member States are requested to give the percentage of the areas concerned that are or will be adequately covered by ENC’s. Whilst Member States may return all 3 Annexes together the IHB would be happy to receive them individually as Member States are able to complete them.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Maratos', written over a horizontal line.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President

Enclosures:

- Annex A: High Speed and Dynamically Stabilised Craft
- Annex B: International Shipping Routes
- Annex C: Port Approach Routes and Major Harbours

ENC Production, Availability and Coverage
Information form
(to be returned to the IHB by 31 January 2007
E-mail: info@ihb.mc - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

HIGH SPEED AND DYNAMICALLY STABILISED CRAFT

MEMBER STATE:

1. Do High Speed / Dynamically Stabilised Craft operate in waters under your jurisdiction?

YES

NO

2. If the answer to 1 is yes, are the routes they follow currently covered by ENCs?

YES

NO

PARTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/>	PERCENTAGE <input type="checkbox"/>
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3. If the answer to 2 is no or partially, will the routes be covered by ENCs by 1 July 2008?

YES

NO

PARTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/>	PERCENTAGE <input type="checkbox"/>
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4. If the answer to 3 is no or partially, will the routes be covered by ENCs by 1 July 2010?

YES

NO

PARTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/>	PERCENTAGE <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. If the answer to 4 is no or partially, do you require assistance to achieve adequate coverage by 1 July 2010? (Note: If the answer to this question is yes the IHB will make direct contact with the MS concerned to evaluate how this assistance can best be provided.)

YES

NO

Signature :

Date :

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INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING ROUTES

MEMBER STATE:

1. Are the international shipping routes in your area of charting responsibility currently adequately covered by ENCs?

YES NO PARTIALLY PERCENTAGE

2. If the answer to 1 is no or partially, will the international shipping routes in your area of charting responsibility be adequately covered by ENCs by 1 July 2010?

YES NO PARTIALLY PERCENTAGE

3. If the answer to 1 is no or partially, do you require assistance to achieve adequate coverage by 1 July 2010? (Note: If the answer to this question is yes the IHB will make direct contact with the MS concerned to evaluate how this assistance can best be provided.)

YES NO

Signature:

Date:

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PORT APPROACH ROUTES AND MAJOR HARBOURS

MEMBER STATE:

1. Are the port approach routes and major harbours in your area of charting responsibility currently adequately covered by ENCs?

YES NO PARTIALLY PERCENTAGE

2. If the answer to 1 is no or partially, will the port approach routes and major harbours in your area of charting responsibility be adequately covered by ENCs by 1 July 2010?

YES NO PARTIALLY PERCENTAGE

3. If the answer to 2 is no or partially, do you require assistance to achieve adequate coverage by 1 July 2010? (Note: If the answer to this question is yes the IHB will make direct contact with the MS concerned to evaluate how this assistance can best be provided.)

YES NO

Signature:

Date: