

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

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CIRCULAR LETTER 05/2007
12 January 2007

**IHO S-57 SUPPLEMENT No 1 (EDITION 3.1.1) – ANNOUNCEMENT OF DOCUMENT
RELEASE**

Ref: Circular Letter 94/2005 of 26 September 2005.

Dear Hydrographer,

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has recently recognized new features, such as Archipelagic Sea Lanes and Environmentally Sensitive Sea Areas that need to be shown on charts. These cannot be adequately encoded in ENCs using existing S-57 Edition 3.1 object and attribute definitions and the IHO CHRIS therefore tasked its Transfer Standard Maintenance and Application Development (TSMAD) Working Group to develop a minor revision extending the S-57 standard to accommodate the new features and, as far as possible, to make provision for future comparable extensions as required by IMO.

The document containing the new S-57 objects and attributes required to encode the new features is entitled; “Enhancements Required to Encode S-57 Edition 3.1.1 ENC Data”. It was approved by the 18th CHRIS meeting, and is issued herewith as Supplement No 1 to S-57 Edition 3.1 with immediate effect. The document is available for download from the IHO web site <http://www.iho.int> > Publications > Downloads.

It should be emphasised that it is only necessary to produce S-57 Edition 3.1.1 data if there is a requirement to encode the new objects and attributes contained in the Supplement No 1 document.

The generic features and attributes defined in the supplement have only been included for anticipated future extensions, and their use is **prohibited** unless sanctioned by the relevant technical committees of the IHO. It should also be noted that the use of Edition 3.1.1 features will not require changes to the S-57 edition number, ENC product specification version number or catalogue file name. Indication that an ENC contains S-57 Edition 3.1.1 features is provided in the comment sub-field of the DSID (dataset identification) field.

Although the current edition of the IHO S-52 Presentation Library (Edition 3.3) does not make provision for symbolizing the new Edition 3.1.1 object classes in ECDIS, new symbolization is being developed, and will be included in the next edition (3.4) of the S-52 Presentation Library planned to be formally released on 1 January 2008. However, selected presentation rules

designed for the new objects classes will be adopted in due course, and will be published as Deferred Amendments to the existing Edition 3.3 of the S-52 Presentation Library. The IHB will take appropriate action to inform ECDIS manufacturers to implement the new presentation mechanisms required for the object and attribute enhancements contained in Edition 3.1.1 ENC Data. This will apply to new ECDIS systems and will also require ECDIS systems in the field to apply the changes at their earliest opportunity. For ECDIS using the current edition of the S-52 Presentation Library, the new Edition 3.1.1 object classes will be portrayed as “*Unknown Objects*” and will be displayed using “?” symbols.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Barbor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director