



IHB File No. S3/4405

CIRCULAR LETTER 8/2007
22 January 2007

**REVISED SECTION B-400 OF THE
CHART SPECIFICATIONS OF THE IHO (M-4)**

- References:
1. Publication M-4 Part B: Chart Specifications of the IHO.
 2. Circular Letter 72/2006 dated 23 October 2006
 3. Circular Letter 48/2006 dated 22 June 2006

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) is continuing with the review and revision of Part B of M-4 (reference 1). Following the revision of Sections B-100, B-200, and B-400 to B-429, which have now been included in the M-4 version 3.003 on the IHO website (announced by Circular Letter in reference 2), the CSPCWG has now prepared a draft revision of the next section, from B-430 to B-439. A copy of the draft is now available on the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr > Committees > CHRIS > CSPCWG > IHO Publication M-4), for Member States to examine. An alternative copy, with new text in colour, is also available in the same area of the website. This track change version has been made to assist translators, but can be used to recognize areas of change; however, as the format and graphics in this version have not been updated it should be used with caution.
2. This revision includes many improvements to the text to make it more consistent with other parts of M-4, and numerous amendments, amplifications and updates. Noteworthy changes to the existing specifications are listed in Annex A.
3. The CSPCWG also proposes new specifications for the reporting line (B-488) and DGPS station (B-481.5) symbols previously agreed (details in Circular Letter in reference 3). These new specifications are at Annex B.
4. Member States are requested to review the CSPCWG's draft revision and proposals. According to Specification B-160, Member States should inform the IHB (info@ihb.mc) if they have any major objections to the adoption of the revised and additional specifications, or any other comments, within three months. Therefore, Member States' comments should reach the IHB no later than **22 April 2007**. If no objections are received, the IHB will announce in a follow-up Circular Letter that the revised specifications have come into force.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES TO CHART SPECIFICATIONS OF THE IHO (M-4) B-430 TO B-439

- B-430.2:** A method for showing speed restrictions, if required.
- B-431.1:** A change of term: 'Reported' anchorages, rather than 'recommended', to avoid the possible inference that unofficial anchorages may be recommended by the charting authority.
- B-431.9:** A new specification for 'Waiting Areas'.
- B-432:** Increased clarity in the differences between recommended tracks, channels and fairways and routeing measures.
- B-432.3/B-434.1:** A reduction in the available symbols for 'routeing measures combined with recommended tracks' and a clearer explanation on when they may be used. (INT 1 will be updated in due course).
- B-433.2:** Removal of the example of degrees and minutes for bearings on leading and clearing lines.
- B-434.5:** A new specification for 'Fairways', developed in close consultation with certain Baltic region Member States.
- B-435:** Inclusion of IMO definitions for routeing measures and a revised diagram, which includes an example of a fairway among other minor changes.
- B-435.1:** Acceptance of the use of 'established direction of traffic flow' arrows in routeing measures other than traffic separation schemes.
- B-435.2:** A new limit symbol for a precautionary area, incorporating the 'triangle symbol', to be used where it will assist clarity. (This will be included in INT 1 in due course).
- B-435.4c:** A one-way version of the 'recommended route' symbol.
- B-435.9:** A new specification for mandatory routeing systems.
- B-435.7, 10 & 11, B-437:** Areas to be avoided, Archipelagic sea lanes, IMO No anchoring areas and Environmentally Sensitive Sea Areas: these specifications were developed and approved recently; see IHO CL 01/2005.
- B-438:** Amplified specifications for ferries, including charting ferries that depend on fixed overhead cables.
- B-439.2:** The use of larger and bolder dashes and T-shaped dashes to highlight the limits of routeing measures and guidance on charting port security limits, if required.
- B-439.6:** A new specification on cartographic principles for charting maritime limits, including useful guidance on hierarchies for limits, the use of tint bands to highlight important limits and charting multi-feature lines.

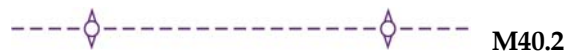
**ADDITIONAL CHART SPECIFICATIONS
FOR MEMBER STATES' APPROVAL**

B-481.5 Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) is an enhancement to the Global Positioning System that uses a network of fixed ground-based reference stations to broadcast the difference between the positions indicated by the satellite systems and the known fixed positions.

DGPS stations that provide DGPS corrections to the mariner may be charted. If required, it must be charted by the magenta radio circle with associated upright legend DGPS:



B-488.1 Radio reporting line. Where vessels are required to report on crossing a defined line, the line must be charted, normally by a dashed magenta line (general maritime limit of non-restricted area - N1.2), with small reporting point symbols superimposed across the line:



Circle radius 1.85mm, triangle base 1.15mm, triangle height 1.50mm. Symbols should be inserted at approximately 40mm intervals.

If the reporting line coincides with another limit, the symbols should be superimposed on that limit. See also B-439.6k.