



IHB File No. S3/8162

CIRCULAR LETTER 113/2007
07 December 2007

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF
REVISED EDITION OF S-63 – IHO Data Protection Scheme

- References:
- 1) IHB Circular Letter 65/2003 dated 6 November 2003
 - 2) 19th CHRIS Meeting –Action 19/15

Dear Hydrographer,

1. At its 19th meeting in Rotterdam in November 2007 the Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems (CHRIS), as the relevant IHO technical committee, endorsed for publication a revised edition of S-63 – *IHO Data Protection Scheme*. This edition will be S-63 edition 1.1 and it will supersede edition 1.0 which was announced by the IHB Circular Letter in reference 1.

2. The principal changes in S-63 e1.1 are:

- Changes in the structure of the document to make it easier to use.
- The inclusion of the texts from published guidance notes.
- Introduction of some minor changes to assist operability and overcome certain problems identified with implementation.

3. Following an amendment to the IMO Performance Standard, ECDIS installed after 1st January 2009 will be required to have an S-63 capability. The ECDIS test standard (IEC 61174) is being amended to include appropriate tests. The introduction of S-63 e1.1 will not adversely affect existing ECDIS users or systems.

4. The [draft edition 1.1 of S-63](#) is available on the IHO website (www.iho.int > Committees > CHRIS > CHRIS19 Documents > Doc. CHRIS19-06.3B). A revised test data set will be included as part of the new edition for use with the revised edition of IEC 61174 - *Test Specification for ECDIS* which is expected to come into force in 2008.

5. As a consequence of the endorsement of S-63 e1.1 by CHRIS, the IHB proposes publishing the revised edition as soon as possible. Member States are therefore invited to comment on this proposal **by 15 February 2008**. If no objections are received, the IHB will publish S-63 e1.1 on 1 March 2008.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Captain Robert WARD
Director