



IHB File No. S3/8151/CHRIS

CIRCULAR LETTER 26/2007
1 March 2007

S-100 INFORMATION PAPER

- References:
- a) IHB Circular Letter 83/2004, dated 7 December 2004.
 - b) IHB Circular Letter 93/2005, dated 23 September 2005.
 - c) IHB Circular Letter 69/2006, dated 19 October 2006.

Dear Hydrographer,

1 Reference a) reported on the production of an information paper on the then S-57 Edition 4.0 and that it was available on the IHO website. Reference b) announced that the publication number for the new IHO geospatial standard for hydrographic data was to be changed to S-100.

2 The CHRIS Committee, at its 18th meeting, agreed that the previously published IHO Information Paper "*The Next Edition of IHO S-57 (4.0)*" would be updated to reflect S-100 and would further explain the standard and its implications. The information paper would be republished on the IHO website. This was announced in Reference c).

3 An S-100 Information Paper has now been produced accordingly and is available on the IHO website (www.iho.int > Committees > TSMAD). French and Spanish versions will also be prepared. The main points are recalled below.

3.1 The primary goal for S-100 is to support a greater variety of hydrographic-related digital data sources, products, and customers. This includes matrix and raster data, 3-D and time-varying data (x, y, z, and time), and new applications that go beyond the scope of traditional hydrography (for example, high-density bathymetry, seafloor classification, marine GIS). It will also enable the use of web-based services for acquiring, processing, analyzing, accessing, and presenting data. S-100 is not an incremental revision of Edition 3.1. S-100 will be a new standard that includes both additional content and support of a new data exchange formats.

3.2 Due to the worldwide prominence of ISO standards, IHO S-100 will be based on the ISO suite of standards. However, alignment with the ISO 19100 series of geographic standards will require a different structure for S-100 compared to S-57. More specifically, this will involve a new framework, and new/revised terms to describe the components of S-100.

3.3 The present intention is to release S-100 in late 2007. IHO S-57 Edition 3.1 will continue to be used for many years to come -- even after S-100 has been released. As such, Hydrographic Offices should continue to produce S-57 ENC data to meet IMO ECDIS Performance Standard requirements, and to maintain world-wide ENC coverage. Any future ENC Product Specification will take several years to develop after publication of the S-100 base standard, and will involve the active participation of all IHO stakeholders.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Barbor', written in a cursive style.

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director