



IHB File No. S3/8151/HSSC

CIRCULAR LETTER 36/2009
12 June 2009

**S-100 - IHO GEOSPATIAL STANDARD FOR MARINE DATA AND INFORMATION
- REQUEST FOR STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK**

Dear Hydrographers,

1. In accordance with the process described in Resolution A1.21 - *Principles and Procedures for Making Changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications*, this letter seeks formal comment on the draft Hydrographic Geospatial Standard for Marine Data and Information to be known as S-100. Addressees are encouraged to circulate this letter widely so as to bring it to the attention of all who may be interested in S-100.
2. The pre-publication version of S-100 (version 0.0.3) is now available on the IHO website at: http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/TSMAD/TSMAD_Misc/S-100ver0.0.3.pdf. Digital copies, on CD-ROM, can be obtained from the IHB on request.
3. Subject to satisfactory feedback, the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (formerly the CHRIS) will consider S-100 at its meeting in October 2009, with a view to recommending to IHO Member States that S-100 becomes an effective standard from 1 January 2010.
4. S-100 was included in the IHO Work Programme in 2001. It has been developed by the Transfer Standards Maintenance and Applications Development (TSMAD) Working Group. A number of *expert contributors* representing various industry stakeholders have contributed to the work. Various IHO Circular Letters have informed Member States of the progress of S-100 and its potential impact. CL69 of 2006 provided the last update. The IHB has also posted an extensive and updated overview of S-100 on the IHO website at: http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/TSMAD/TSMAD_Misc/S-100_InfoPaper_rev3-Apr09.pdf
5. S-100 is aligned with the ISO 19100 series of geographic standards to make it a contemporary and flexible standard that will move hydrographic data into the mainstream of Geographic Information Systems technology and encourage a wider and more sophisticated use of hydrographic information in the future. At the same time, ENC data conforming to S-57 Edition 3.1 will continue to be a requirement for type approved, IMO-compliant ECDIS for the foreseeable future - even after S-100 has come into force. Consequently, S-100 should have a minimal direct impact on hydrographic offices or the existing production of S-57-based ENC data for many years to come.
6. S-100 is a highly technical document aimed at readers who are familiar with the geospatial data concepts upon which it depends. While bearing this in mind, stakeholders should consider the draft very carefully in relation to its future use by them. Reviewers are invited to comment, in particular, on the technical content, the presentation and the readability of the S-100 documentation.

7. In order that any significant feedback may be considered by the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee at its next meeting, comments on the draft version of S-100 should be forwarded to the chairman of TSMAD at: barrie.greenslade@ukho.gov.uk with a copy to: thomas.mellor@ukho.gov.uk **not later than 31 August 2009**. The form at Annex A should be used for any specific amendments to the text of the document.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Ward', with a period at the end.

Robert WARD
Director, IHB

Annex (in English only)

A. S-100 Stakeholder Feedback Form

COPIED TO: IHO Stakeholders (as listed on IHO website) [by email]

