



IHB File No. S3/4405

CIRCULAR LETTER 79/2009
20 November 2009

**CHART SPECIFICATIONS OF THE IHO (S-4)
Revised Sections B-480 to B-499**

- References:
1. Publication S-4 Part B: Chart Specifications of the IHO
 2. IHO CL 55/2009 dated 5 August 2009
 3. IHO Resolution K2.39.2 – *CSPCWG ToRs – Authority*
 4. IHO CL 23/09 dated 9 April 2009
 5. IHO CL 32/09 dated 12 May 2009

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Circular Letter in Reference 2 announced that the CSPCWG (Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group) had completed a draft revision of chart specifications B-480 to B-499 of S-4 and that they were available on the IHO website for Member States to examine.

2. Member States were asked, in accordance with Reference 3, to inform the IHB if they had any objections to the adoption of the proposed new and revised specifications and symbols. The Bureau thanks the following 24 Member States who provided responses, all expressing their support for the proposals: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, France, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Netherlands, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States. The revised specifications are therefore adopted. Two minor changes suggested by France were incorporated. This completes the thorough revision of Section B-400 on Hydrography and Aids to Navigation.

3. A new version of S-4 (edition 3.007) will now be prepared by the CSPCWG, incorporating:

- the revision of specifications B-480 to B-497;
- amendments to the allocation of INT numbers between Regions D and E in the table at A-204.2, as agreed by the relevant regional chart coordinators;
- changes to wording at B-151, consequent on the cancellation of Technical Resolution K1.1 and withdrawal of IHO publication M-15, announced by Circular Letter in reference 4;
- a revised ZOC table derived from S-57 Edition 3.1 Supplement 2 at B-297.9, announced by Circular Letter in reference 5.

4. Other minor editorial updates, including amendments to cross-references which have accrued since the last revision, will also be included. The IHO publication number will be

changed from M-4 to S-4 and references to the former CHRIS will be replaced by references to HSSC. The new version of S-4 will then be posted on the IHO website.

5. The Work Plan of the CSPCWG may be viewed at the 'Committees and WG' tab on the IHO website. The latest version, recently endorsed at HSSC1, will be included in the report of that meeting. Member States are invited to continue contributing to this work through their representatives on CSPCWG.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Captain Robert WARD
Director