

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC  
ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

IHB File No. S3/8151/TSMAD

CIRCULAR LETTER 13/2010  
01 February 2010

**APPROVAL OF EDITION 1.2 OF S-65 - ENC PRODUCTION GUIDANCE**

Reference: IHB CL 80/2009 dated 23 November

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The Directing Committee would like to thank the following 40 Member States who replied to CL 80/2009 proposing the adoption of Edition 1.2 of IHO Publication S-65 *ENC Production Guidance*: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Mauritius, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Turkey, UK and USA.

2 All responses supported the proposal with nine Member States providing comments which are included at Annex A, together with explanatory responses. There are currently 80 Member States of the IHO, two of whom have been suspended. Therefore in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article VI of the Convention on the IHO, the majority required on "questions concerning the technical functioning of the Organization" is 40. As a result, Edition 1.2 of Publication S-65 - *ENC Production Guidance* has been adopted.

3 The new edition is available for downloading from the IHO website ([www.iho-ohi.net/iho\\_pubs/standard/S-65\\_e1.2\\_EN\\_2009.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/iho_pubs/standard/S-65_e1.2_EN_2009.pdf)).

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD  
Director

Annex A: Member States comments

## MEMBER STATES COMMENTS

### **Argentina**

We are very satisfied with the new edition of S-65. The new Annex B "Guidelines for Encoding Temporary and Preliminary ENC Updates" describes in a clear and methodical way the procedure that is currently used by DHN for this type of updates for the ENCs which are available from IC-ENC.

### **Australia**

Australia suggested a number of editorial corrections or improvements to the draft new edition.

*Comment by the IHB: Australia's editorial corrections and improvements have been incorporated in the final version of S-65 edition 1.2.*

### **Ecuador**

We consider that the assistance provided in the use of SCAMIN is useful, so that those objects of interest to the mariner and which present a danger for navigation will appear at the appropriate scales.

### **Finland**

#### BSHC recommendations for the Baltic Sea:

- The S-65 Annex A Appendix 1 has been modified in some degree according to the comments raised by the BSHC.
- The BSHC has jointly specified and adopted more specific recommendations suitable for the Baltic Sea. These are derived from the recommendations of Annex A Appendix 1. These have been agreed so that it is possible to implement them by all Baltic Sea HOs. For technical reasons some recommendations are more generic than the recommendations of the Annex A Appendix 1. We regard these BSHC recommendations overrule the (more general) recommendations of S-65.
- We do not see feasible to adopt the BSHC recommendations back into the S-65, because these recommendations are most valid only for the Baltic Sea. Other sea areas may have different situations and may need different recommendations.
- Rather we believe that the S-65 should have a clear indication that in the document there are some recommendations, but that some RHCs may have specified more detailed recommendations most suitable for their sea areas and these should be used on these areas.

*Comment by the IHB: As reflected in its title, S-65 provides guidance – not specifications – for ENC production, including encoding. However, the possible requirement, in some particular sea areas, for more specific recommendations than those in Annex A Appendix 1 is acknowledged. A note has been included at the beginning of Appendix 1 to that effect.*

#### Role of S-65:

- When considering further the role of S-65, it seems that the whole document contains quite high level guidance for establishing ENC production. The title of S-65 is "ENC Production Guidance". Only the annexes A and B contain some more specific recommendations.
- The Introduction of the S-65 clearly states the purpose and scope of this document: "This document provides a high level guide to the production, maintenance and distribution of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs). It offers a framework to inform hydrographic offices of the processes and requirements necessary to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs. It provides references to documentation which can support each stage of the process. It is not intended to serve as a technical reference manual but to enable hydrographic offices to gain an overview of ENC production processes, and the requirements and procedures that need to be in place to set up an ENC production facility."
- We believe that S-65 should be a similar guidance document to the new C-17. Thus to avoid any confusion, we propose consideration be given to moving S-65 into the C-series of IHO documents.
- Actually, we believe that the same reasoning applies also to S-66 "Facts about Electronic Charts and Carriage Requirements". However, we have noted that a new edition of the S-66

has just been released (ref. CL 05/2010) and it may not be feasible to change the document code soon. But in the future, these changes may be considered.

*Comment by the IHB: The possible inclusion of S-65 and S-66 in the C-series of IHO publications will be considered on the occasion of their next editions.*

### **France**

France suggested a number of editorial improvements to the draft new edition.

*Comment by the IHB: France's editorial improvements have been incorporated in the final version of S-65 edition 1.2.*

### **Germany**

S-65 is regarded as providing guidance for those nations who are in the process of establishing an ENC production capability. Due to its scope, S-65 Annex A should indicate that the final assignment of ENCs to navigational purposes and settings used for individual SCAMIN attribution should preferably be done in consultation with neighbouring HOs or with all nations within a RENC, or with all nations within a Regional Hydrographic Commission, in order to maintain consistency across national or regional boundaries. Moreover, if some RHCs specify more detailed recommendations most suitable for their sea areas, these local arrangements should take precedence over the regulations of Annex A.

*Comment by the IHB: A note has been added at the beginning of Annex A on the need for neighbouring HOs to liaise to ensure consistency across cell boundaries when producing ENCs. See also first IHB comment for Finland.*

Because S-65 provides general guidance to HOs on how to set up an ENC production, rather than detailed technical guidance (with the exception of Annex A), it is proposed to be included in the IHO C-series of publications.

*Comment by the IHB: See second IHB comment for Finland.*

### **Romania**

Unfortunately, at this moment we cannot promulgate temporary and preliminary ENC updates, and temporary and preliminary Notices to Mariners by Internet.

### **South Africa**

- Key Stages in the Production of ENC Diagram p. 11  
Consider to insert "optional" in the ENC Database graphic. As it stands, it gives the impression that it is mandatory.

*Comment by the IHB: As reflected in its title, S-65 provides guidance – not specifications – for ENC production. As a result, none of the recommendations and guidelines in S-65 is mandatory.*

- Appendix 1 – Specific SCAMIN Step Values for Object and Attribute Combinations  
The sub-division of the Group 2 objects based on their display seems useful information to have, so recommend this be retained in this document.

*Comment by the IHB: Removal of the Group 2 column from the table at Annex A Appendix 1 was proposed by TSMAD and endorsed by HSSC1. South Africa's comment will be sent to TSMAD for consideration.*

### **United Kingdom**

The UKHO approves the publication of the new edition of S-65 and commends the work of the TSMAD, BSHC and CHS.