



IHB File No. S3/7350

CIRCULAR LETTER 21/2011  
3 March 2011

ADOPTION OF EDITION 4.2 OF IHO PUBLICATION S-58  
*"Recommended ENC Validation Checks"*

Reference: IHO CL 90/2010 dated 14 December

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The Directing Committee would like to thank the following 42 Member States who replied to the Reference: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Korea (Rep. of), Latvia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela. All 42 Member States supported the proposed new edition 4.2 of S-58 *Recommended ENC Validation Checks* with two States providing specific comments. These comments, together with explanatory responses where appropriate, are provided in Annex A.

2 There are currently 80 IHO Member States with two States suspended. Therefore in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article VI of the Convention on the IHO, the majority required for adoption of edition 4.2 is 40. Consequently, edition 4.2 of S-58 is adopted and will be posted in the IHO publications download section of the IHO website shortly.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD  
Director

Annex A: Comments by Member States

**COMMENTS BY MEMBER STATES  
IN RESPONSE TO CL 90/2010**

**Colombia:** We recommend continuing with the improvement of the test validation checks, which enables these errors, including warnings, to be minimized. Also, the changes to the EXP SOU attribute are valid as, by means of this tool, the exposition of soundings can be better depicted, particularly in areas where they are numerous.

*Comment by IHB: The new edition of S-58 supports the above statement.*

**Portugal:** On the one hand, HOs are producing very high quality ENC's whereas, on the other hand, the upgrades to the old ECDIS systems are not produced as quickly as the ENC's. In the end, we should be aware of the fact that mariners may encounter alarms and warnings, with which they are not familiar, caused by new objects and attributes.

*Comment by IHB: This view is supported. The workshop on 'ECDIS Software Issues' held at the IHB on 15-16 February addressed this topic (as an action arising from HSSC2). As a result an IHO submission has been made to MSC 89 on the subject of "Operating anomalies identified within ECDIS" (See CL 19/2011 for more details).*