



IHB File No. S3/ 4405

CIRCULAR LETTER 44/2013
08 July 2013

**REVISION OF THE CHART SPECIFICATIONS OF THE IHO (S-4)
Adoption of a 'generic' light flare on multicoloured paper charts**

References: A. IHO

Circular Letter 05/2013 dated 18 January - *Revision of the Chart Specifications of the IHO (S-4) -
Adoption of a 'generic' light flare on multicoloured paper charts*

B. IHO Publication S-4 Part B - *Chart Specifications of the IHO*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Directing Committee would like to thank the following 42 Member States who replied to Reference A that proposed the adoption of a generic light flare on multicoloured paper charts: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, UK, Uruguay and USA.

2. Comments made by Member States as part of their responses and the outcome of their review by the Chair of the Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) are provided in the Annex to this letter. The answers to the supplementary questions may be of interest to Member States considering adopting multicolour printing.

3. Forty Member States supported the proposed revised specifications, one Member State objected to the proposal and one Member State abstained. Based on the review of the comments by the Chair of CSPCWG, the Directing Committee supports his recommendation to adopt the new specifications.

4. The amended revised specifications, taking into account the comments in Annex A, will be included in the next revision of S-4.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gilles BESSERO', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Gilles BESSERO
Director

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO CL 05/2013 AND
COMMENTS FROM THE CSPCWG CHAIR
Adoption of a 'generic' light flare on multicoloured paper charts**

AUSTRALIA

Main questions: No. 3 (answer = Yes): Given that the revised specification suggests that a single magenta flare be used where there are multiple coloured lights at a single point, suggest there is no requirement for the "(s)" after "flare" and "colour".

Comment from Chair of CSPCWG: Occasionally, where two or more different coloured lights are charted at the same light star (because they are on the same structure or because of scale) then more than one flare may be shown at a single light star. Therefore, the '(s)' should remain. (This clarification is planned for inclusion in the next revision of S-4).

Supplementary questions: No. 1 (answer = No): While Australia does produce "multicoloured" paper charts based on the CMYK colour printing process, we have not extended its use to include coloured light flares. It is assumed that the focus of these questions is on coloured light flares, hence the "No" answer to these questions.

CANADA

Main and supplementary questions (answer = Yes): Currently Canada does have limited use of multicoloured objects on our charts, but as of now Canada does not use multicoloured light flares or sectors. We are examining the possibility of adopting that standard in the future.

CHILE

Main questions (answer = Yes): Chile represents only in magenta the colour of lights, as we consider that it fits with the present specifications proposed for adoption.

GERMANY

Main questions: Nos. 1, 2 & 3 (answer = No): The combination of a generic magenta flare with a multicoloured light flare identification confuses the user. Nos. 4 & 5 (answer = No): Flares depicting lights should have correspondent colours.

Comment from Chair of CSPCWG: 1-3: CSPCWG recognized the conflicting judgments, and explained them and the conclusion and mitigating proposal for INT1 in CL05/2013 (Paragraph 3). 4-5: Signal stations using lights inevitably use more than one colour, therefore a magenta flare is appropriate and adequate.

MEXICO

Main questions (answer = Abst.): Mexico abstains from voting because we do not produce Multicoloured Charts presently and have little experience in this subject, knowing that we have already begun to make colour tests to produce such charts.

NETHERLANDS

Supplementary questions: No. 1 (answer = Yes): (NL produces 'multicoloured' paper charts,) but not including coloured light flares and sectors yet.