



THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE

IHB File N° S3/8151/TSMAD

CIRCULAR LETTER 18/2014
11 February 2014

**APPROVAL OF NEW EDITIONS OF IHO PUBLICATIONS:
S-57, APPENDIX B.1, ANNEX A – USE OF THE OBJECT CATALOGUE
S-58 – ENC VALIDATION CHECKS
S-57 SUPPLEMENT No 3**

References:

- A. IHO CL 08/2014 dated 20 January - *Outcome of the fifth meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC)*
- B. IHO CL 20/2013 dated 11 March - *Adoption of New Editions of IHO Publications: Edition 3.1.0 of S-57 - Appendix B1 - Annex A - Use of the Object Catalogue for ENC (UOC)*
- C. IHO CL 21/2011 dated 3 March - *Adoption of Edition 4.2 of IHO Publication S-58 - Recommended ENC Validation Checks*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As reported in Reference A (paragraph 10) several updated versions of IHO publications were considered by the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) at its 5th meeting in November 2013. These included a draft edition 4.0.0 of the Use of the Object Catalogue for ENC (UOC - S-57, Appendix B.1, Annex A), a draft edition 5.0.0 of S-58 - *ENC Validation Checks* and a draft S-57 Supplement No 3, all prepared by the Transfer Standard Maintenance and Applications Development Working Group (TSMAD). The HSSC endorsed the drafts, subject to TSMAD finalizing the new edition of S-58 at its 27th meeting in December 2013 (action HSSC5/33). This was done and TSMAD has now provided an improved version 5.0.0 of S-58 to the IHB.

UOC edition 4.0.0

2. UOC edition 4.0.0 is intended to replace the existing edition 3.1.0 (announced in Reference B). It includes new guidance on updating ENC datasets in response to disasters; on addressing depth discontinuities between surveys; and on masking certain objects in order to improve ECDIS screen display. It also includes ENC Encoding Bulletin No. 54 on virtual AIS Aids to Navigation.

S-58 edition 5.0.0

3. S-58 edition 5.0.0 is intended to replace the existing edition 4.2.0 (announced in Reference C). It introduces the new concept of critical error and includes associated “critical” (C) checks which, if not adhered to, may cause a failure in the ECDIS, or at least severely compromise ECDIS performance. However, meeting those checks by ENC producers will not be mandatory until validation software conforming to edition 5.0.0 is available. In order to support this transition a test dataset and a mechanism that will in future certify that the validation tools reflect the current standard will be developed by TSMAD. The implementation date of mandatory checks for ENC producers will be announced in due course by IHO circular letter. At that time a revised version of S-58 will be published that will specify that ENC data must not contain any critical (C) error. It is foreseen that the transition will require about 12 months from the date of approval of edition 5.0.0 and that the implementation date will be announced at least two months in advance.

4. Edition 5.0.0 of S-58 additionally provides improved logical ordering of the tests, a more programmatic syntax, and encoding advice to fix any error or warning.

S-57 Supplement No. 3

5. S-57 Supplement No. 3 introduces the minimum validation requirements defined in S-58 in order to conform to the ENC product specification, subject to the transition described in paragraph 4. It also includes some minor changes to improve consistency.

Approval Process

6. The IHB is now seeking the approval of Member States, in accordance with the instructions of the HSSC (actions HSSC5/17, HSSC5/18, and HSSC5/34 refer). In accordance with IHO Resolution 2/2007, as amended, Member States are invited to review and consider the updated UOC (edition 4.0.0), the updated S-58 (edition 5.0.0) and S-57 Supplement No 3, which are available for inspection on the IHO website at:

www.iho.int > Standards & Publications > Download > Draft Publications Awaiting Approval by Member States. The texts are available in English only.

7. Member States are requested to indicate their decision by returning the Voting Form, provided in Annex A, by **15 April 2014**.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

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

Gilles BESSERO
Director

Annex A: Voting Form

VOTING FORM
(to be returned to the IHB by 15 April 2014
E-mail: info@iho.int - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

Member
State:

Contact:

E-mail:

ADOPTION OF EDITION 4.0.0 OF S-57 – Annex A – Appendix B.1 (UOC)

1. Do you approve the adoption of edition 4.0.0 of S-57 - Appendix B1 - Annex A - *Use of the Object Catalogue for ENC (UOC)*?

YES

NO

ADOPTION OF EDITION 5.0.0 OF S-58

2. Do you approve the adoption of edition 5.0.0 of S-58 – *ENC Validation Checks*?

YES

NO

ADOPTION OF S-57 Supplement No. 3

3. Do you approve the adoption of S-57 Supplement No. 3?

YES

NO

Comments (if required)