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CIRCULAR LETTER 65/2015
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[Rev1](#)

STATUS OF IHO ECDIS AND ENC NORMATIVE REFERENCES

References:

- A. IEC 61174 - *Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems - Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) - Operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results*, Edition 4.0, 2015-08
- B. IHO CL 81/2014 dated 22 December - *Adoption of New Edition of IHO Publications: S-52 Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS, Edition 6.1.0, S-52 Annex A - IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS, Edition 4.0.0, S-64 - IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS, Edition 3.0.0*
- C. IHO CL 61/2015 dated 24 August - *ECDIS - Guidance on Good Practice*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Directing Committee has been informed that the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) published the 4th Edition of IEC 61174 - *Maritime Navigation and Radiocommunication Equipment and Systems - Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) - Operational and Performance Requirements, Methods of Testing and Required Test Results* on 19 August 2015. Consequently, new ECDIS will now be type approved in accordance with this new edition.

2. According to the provisions reported in Reference B, Edition 6.1 of IHO Publication S-52 - *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS*, Edition 4.0 of S-52 Annex A - *IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS* and Edition 3.0 of IHO Publication S-64 - *IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS* are now the normative IHO references for the type approval of new ECDIS. The previous editions will remain valid until 31 August 2016 for ECDIS which have been type-approved in accordance with a previous edition of IEC 61174. It is expected that these ECDIS will be upgraded or replaced within that time period, in accordance with the Guidance on Good Practice of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) (see Reference C).

3. The list of current IHO ECDIS and ENC standards posted on the IHO web site at Home > ENCs & ECDIS has been updated accordingly.

4. Edition 4.0 of IEC 61174 refers to Edition [64.1](#) (2014) of S-52 and to Edition [46.0](#) (2014) of the Presentation Library. Despite the care taken in preparing these new editions, their effective implementation may reveal imperfections requiring corrections or clarifications, to be considered by the IHO ENC Standards Maintenance Working Group (ENCWG). In order to maintain consistency with IEC 61174, possible successive versions of the ECDIS Presentation Library will be identified as Edition 4.0(x) - October 2014 - With clarifications up to (date). Possible successive versions of S-52 will be identified as Edition [64.1](#)(x) - October 2014 - With clarifications up to (date).

5. Edition 4.0 of IEC 61174 refers to undated editions of S-57, S-63 – *IHO Data Protection Scheme* and S-64. As specified in the section on normative references of IEC 61174, the latest editions of these standards apply.

6. IHO Member States are invited to ensure that the status of normative ECDIS references is well understood by their relevant national authorities and stakeholders, including manufacturers and end-users. They may wish to refer to the IHO Media Release dated June 2014 available (in English only) under the IHO News section of the IHO website (IHO News > ECDIS – New References).

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO
Director

Copy:

- Chair, HSSC
- Chair, ENCWG
- Chair, DPSWG