



THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE

IHB File N° S3/8151/ENCWG

CIRCULAR LETTER 08/2015
16 January 2015

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE FOR EDITION 5.0.0 OF THE IHO STANDARD
S-58 – ENC VALIDATION CHECKS**

References:

- A. IHO CL 18/2014 dated 11 February – *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*
- B. IHO CL 46/2014 dated 17 June – *S-57, Appendix B.1, Annex A – Use of the Object Catalogue; S-58 – ENC Validation Checks; S-57 Supplement No 3*
- C. IHO CL 07/2015 dated 16 January - *Outcome of the 6th Meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC-6)*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The adoption by the IHO Member States of Edition 5.0.0, of the IHO Standard S-58 - *ENC Validation Checks* was proposed by Reference A and announced by Reference B. This new Edition introduces the new concept of *critical error* and includes associated “critical” (C) checks which, if not satisfied, may cause a failure in an ECDIS, or at least severely compromise ECDIS performance.
2. Reference A explained that satisfying the critical checks would not be mandatory for ENC producers until validation software conforming to edition 5.0.0 was available. Reference A also indicated that an implementation date when the checks would become mandatory would be announced in due course by IHO Circular Letter. After that implementation date, Edition 4.2.0 would be retired and only S-58 Edition 5.0.0 would be fully in force and would require that ENC data must not contain any critical (C) error.
3. At its 6th meeting held in November 2014 (reported in Reference C), the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) considered the necessity of including all appropriate ENC updates in ER profiles (including those affecting existing ENCs), in order to make updated ENCs compliant with Edition 5.0.0 of S-58.
4. The following provisions will be applicable from the date of mandatory use of Edition 5.0.0 of S-58:
 - all new ENCs published from that date must comply with Edition 5.0.0;
 - all ENC updates, new editions or re-issued ENCs published from that date must include any corrections required to ensure that the updated ENC comply with Edition 5.0.0.
5. Based on the information provided by some developers of validation software, the HSSC considered that validation software compliant with Edition 5.0.0 of S-58 would be available in 2015 and therefore considered that 1 January 2016 should be the target date for the mandatory use of Edition 5.0.0 of S-58, provided that there is no major objection from the ENC producers nor from the Regional ENC Coordination Centres (RENCs).

6. In accordance with the instructions and recommendations of the HSSC (action HSSC6/14 refers), the Directing Committee is now seeking the approval of Member States to agree on 1 January 2016 as the implementation date for Edition 5.0.0 of S-58, from which time all ENC's issued, updated or re-issued must be fully compliant with Edition 5.0.0 of S-58.

7. As RENCs are involved in ENC quality and validation checks, they are also invited to confirm their agreement to the implementation date of 1 January 2016.

8. IHO Member States and the RENCs are requested to indicate their position by returning the Voting Form, provided in Annex A, by **15 March 2015**.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO
Director

Annex A: Voting Form

Distribution:

- IHO Member States
- IC-ENC
- Primar

VOTING FORM
(to be returned to the IHB by 15 March 2015
E-mail: info@iho.int - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

Member State:

or

RENC:

Contact:

E-mail:

IMPLEMENTATION OF EDITION 5.0.0 OF S-58 – ENC VALIDATION CHECKS

Do you agree that the implementation date for Edition 5.0.0 of S-58 should be **1 January 2016**, from which time all the ENCs issued, updated or re-issued under your responsibility will be fully compliant with Edition 5.0.0 of S-58?

YES

NO

Comments (including a list of any potential implementation issues) (if required)

Date: Signature: