

**10<sup>th</sup> CSPWG MEETING**  
**Wellington, New Zealand, 21-24 January, 2014**

**Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG**  
**B-600 questions**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Secretary
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	Action 50 from CSPCWG9 was 'All WG members to advise Secretary whether, with experience, any improvements should be made to S-4 B-600.' Only New Zealand commented.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	S-4 Part B Section 600
<b>Related Projects:</b>	None

### **Introduction / Background.**

At the 9th CSPCWG Meeting, the Chairman enquired whether the new section B-600 was proving useful and whether any need for revisions had been identified. Consequential Action 50 invited 'all WG members to advise Secretary whether, with experience, any improvements should be made to S-4 B-600'. Only New Zealand submitted comments.

### **Analysis / Discussion.**

New Zealand submitted the following comments (in black) for consideration. The WG Officers (Sec and Chair) responded as in red.

1. **B-631.2** This section uses the term 'chart corrector', which sounds quite out of date. Later in the section (631.5 and 631.7) the term 'user' is used instead of 'chart corrector'. We suggest 'chart corrector' be changed to 'user'.  
*You are right; this is old terminology which got through when we borrowed words from old UKHO guidance. I will note to correct it at the next edition of S-4.*

*[This has been amended in S-4 Edition 4.4.0 (Sep 2013), which now reads:*

**B-631.2 Limitations.** It is important to avoid overburdening the chart user and to assist him in accurately applying the update. The number of positions to be plotted should therefore be limited. Generally...]

2. **B-631.6 Authority.** The NM should include an acknowledgment of the source of the information, eg:
  - a 'Government survey';
  - a Foreign Government Chart (the number and edition should be quoted);
  - a Foreign Government NM (the number and year should be quoted);
  - the name of an authority, vessel or person who sent a report.

Every NM which is from an original source (ie not previously published by another national hydrographic office) should be marked with an asterisk so that they may be readily distinguished from those which are reproduced from foreign NMs.

We don't use an asterisk for original information. We think this is only relevant to HOs with a global chart series and therefore not relevant to us. We suggest amending this section to state that use of an asterisk is relevant for HOs with a global chart series.

*You are right that it is useful for global producers. However, this advantage is not limited to global producers, but anywhere where HOs produce charts in a region beyond their own waters, eg in the Baltic or Mediterranean Seas. But it requires others to use it. For example, if AU and NZ charts overlap, it is useful when examining NMs to know quickly whether the source is NZ or AU in the overlap area. If*

the NZ NM is derived from an AU NM and marked with an asterisk, we can ignore it. So it helps us, even if it does not help you. As I recall, it was part of an IHO resolution, which was cancelled as soon as we published B-600. Indeed, a lot of B-600 was simply reiterating then extant [IHO] resolutions, which have now been cancelled because the guidance is in B-600 [as approved by MS, which included the authority to cancel Resolutions because they were now being represented in S-4].

**3. B-632.6 paragraph b.**

a. Large size or folded blocks can cause considerable problems in fitting accurately to the chart, because of eg: paper stretch, wrinkling, misalignment; they are therefore unpopular with chart users. They should only be used where there are clear grounds for rejecting the alternative of a LNE. A large block can sometimes be avoided by using 'mentions' (see B-632.3).

b. The dimensions of a block should ideally be up to about 185mm x 130mm, which conveniently allows two blocks per A4 page and also ensures the digital file size is small enough to be easily downloaded from a website.

We have found that block size is no longer so constrained by digital download size. We have produced a block almost A4 in size with no issue. We suggest that the size of a block can be larger than the stated 185mm x 130mm and maybe 'up to A4' as a size is more useful.

The digital download size is not the main driver for keeping block sizes small. As stated at B-326.6a, A4 size blocks are very difficult to apply accurately, will inevitably introduce distortion and, we are advised, are very unpopular with users.

4. **B-633.6** A (T) NM should not be issued if it is unlikely that the hydrographic office will be informed when the temporary situation has reverted to the charted state. Without such information, the (T) NM cannot be cancelled at the appropriate time. If possible, an alternative method of promulgation should be used, such as a general chart note, eg:

Aids to Navigation

The aids to navigation on this chart are reported to be unreliable....

The last sentence could be expanded to give more detail e.g. 'If possible, an alternative method of promulgation should be used, such as inserting a chart note by permanent NM'. Also we suggest that either the '...' be removed from the following note (as it seems complete) or the note be completed e.g. 'The aids to navigation on this chart are reported to be unreliable and mariners should navigate with caution'.

Perhaps this paragraph is not as clear as intended. It is not intended to convey that a choice should be made between (T)NM and a chart-updating NM to insert a note (although that may be the case), but it is also possible that, because (in the example) it is known that aids to navigation in a particular area are unreliable, inserting a note when the chart is originally published could obviate the need for a (T)NM. Also, it is possible to publish a (T)NM and then cancel it by inserting a note at next NE. So, there are various possibilities and, of course, other examples.

The example note is just the first sentence of one we regularly use in UK (and could stop there). Our note goes on 'They may be missing, unlit or out of position.' which provides more explanation of in what way they may be unreliable; we could add that to the example. We are reluctant to add 'and mariners should navigate with caution' as that seems to be stating the obvious; we could add it to almost any note! As a general principle, we think it is better to state the facts and let the mariner decide what consequent action he should take (unless something is mandatory, of course).

**Conclusions.**

None.

## **Recommendations.**

B-631.2. No further action is required.

B-631.6. The reasoning behind the original resolution (TR F3.2) is still valid and at the time was mandated by 'shall' rather than 'should'. The marking of NMs from original sources by asterisk is a very useful practice and should be retained.

B-632.6. Paragraph 'a' remains the fundamental reason why large blocks should be avoided if possible. If the secondary issue of file size is no longer relevant, then paragraph 'b' could be stopped after 'page'. However, ENC update files are limited to 50Kb, according to guidance regarding changing the area of data coverage of a published ENC cell and the maximum recommended file size for an ENC Update (ER) cell, which was included in UOC Edition 3.0.0 (October 2011) – Clause 2.6:

**Additionally, it has been reported that some ECDIS experience problems in loading large update data sets. Therefore, as a guide, ENC updates should not exceed 50 Kilobytes in size.**

B-633.6. If this paragraph is considered to be insufficiently clear, it could be amended to:

'If possible, an alternative method of promulgation should be used, such as inserting a chart note at new edition of by chart-updating NM, eg:

Aids to Navigation

The aids to navigation on this chart are reported to be unreliable.  
They may be missing, unlit or out of position.'

## **Justification and Impacts.**

To resolve New Zealand's comments.

Very little impact.

## **Action required of CSPCWG.**

The CSPCWG is invited to: Discuss the questions above and advise the Secretary whether any change is required to S-4. It should also advise whether any such changes are clarifications or represent a change of policy.