

**6th CSPCWG MEETING
Monaco 1-3 December 2009**

Report of the ENC Updating Working Group (EUWG)

Submitted by:	Chairman, EUWG
Related Documents:	- Minutes of 20th CHRIS meeting Niterói, RJ, Brazil, 3-7 November 2008 - IHB circular letter 92/2008
Related Projects:	/

Chair:	Yves Le Franc, France
Vice-Chair:	Richard Coombes, United Kingdom
Secretary:	/
Member States:	Australia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, USA.
Expert Contributor Organisations:	IC-ENC, Jeppesen Marine
<i>see Annex A for full details</i>	

Objectives and priorities of EUWG

The EUWG was formed by CHRIS with the following objectives:

1. develop and propose a pragmatic approach to overcome any current shortcomings in the updating mechanisms for T&P notices in ENC's
2. review and revise the updating mechanisms as contained in S-52 Appendix 1
3. report to the HSSC in 2009 with recommendations as appropriate

These objectives define the initial work program and the priorities. According to the objectives 1 and 3, to the minutes of CHRIS 20 and to the IHB CL 92/2008, highest priority was given to the drafting of guidelines to encode ENC updates (ER) corresponding to T and P Notices to Mariners. The EUWG's work was organized in order to provide the ENC producers with high level guidance as soon as possible.

A lower priority was given to the objective 2.

Guidelines for encoding temporary and preliminary ENC updates

The drafting of the Guidelines was endorsed by HSSC1 (Singapore 22-24 October 2009) . The document is presented on EUWG's web pages.

The Guidelines are the result of the thinking of the EUWG members who are often also associated with other IHO working groups (TSMAD, DIPWG, JTEWG, CSPCWG, PRNWX, SNPWX) and are involved in topics related to those of the EUWG.

Represented HOs are near equally distributed between those who already produce ER corresponding to T and P Notices to Mariners (NM) and those who don't. This distribution proved to be very interesting to study the best practices to be applied.

First, the WG carried out an overview of the subject, including contextual aspects and issues. The EUWG's members who already produce ER equivalent to T and P NM also reported the methods they applied.

The information received from these members provided differing solutions and options. This made it necessary to carry out detailed study and discussion on some typical real cases. Members, whether producing T and P ERs or not, described how they would encode a list of real cases.

By comparing the various responses received, the WG was able to draft a first version of the guidelines defining the best practices to apply. The guidelines were improved and consolidated with comments from EUWG members, JTEWG, chairs of CSPCWG and TSMAD. Note that the Guidelines refer to S-4, section B-600 under development by CSPCWG.

Through a set of pragmatic recommendations, the document provides keys to perform appropriate ENC updates. It allows for some latitude in its implementation and is dependent on the assessment of each particular case. The guidelines are in accordance with the current standards to help HOs immediately and encourage them to produce in the short term.

The Guidelines will be incorporated in S-65 (ENC production guidance) forthwith.

S-52 Appendix 1 revision

Due to the constraint of time and the extensive work necessary to address the T and P notices issue in priority, the EUWG was not able to work on S-52 Appendix 1 revision.

Appendix 1 to S-52 was published in December 1996, well before any experience had been gained with ENC updating. As such, it reflects a hypothetical model for the updating of ENCs. At the same time, it lacks any detailed information on the technical aspects of ENC updating. This means that Appendix 1 to S-52 is out of date and is serving little useful purpose in its current form. This was why EUWG was invited to review it. Appendix 1 is also an oddity in S-52, which otherwise deals with ENC content and display aspects, rather than updating.

At HSSC1 new TOR have been decided, and now the objectives of the EUWG are to review and update appendix 1 to S-52 for incorporation in S-65 and to report to HSSC2.

Note that S-4 section B600 "Chart Maintenance" provides details for paper charts, but also principles which equally apply to paper and electronic charts. This very important section should enhance itself ENC maintenance. Then EUWG will study if some complementary detailed advice on ENC maintenance is needed and should be incorporated in S-65.

Action Required of CSPCWG

The CSPCWG is invited to note this report.

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