

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

Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG

Small Craft (Leisure) Symbols

Submitted by:	UK
Executive Summary:	UKHO has undertaken a review of its use of small craft symbols and decided to significantly reduce the number it uses.
Related Documents:	INT1 Section U
Related Projects:	CSPCWG Work item E5

Introduction / Background

CSPCWG has a long term, low priority work item (E5) to consider Small Craft Symbols for possible inclusion in S-4 and standardization across INT1. UKHO has recently had cause to review its use of such symbols (during population of its database). This paper provides the outcomes of that review, which may inform any review undertaken by CSPCWG and other Member States. Possibly, the results would allow us to complete work item E5 quickly.

Analysis / Discussion

Within INT1 Section U, only symbol U1.1 is recognised as an INT symbol. Any other symbols are currently at national discretion. Consequently, such symbols vary from country to country, although there is also some general commonality.

UKHO found that U5 and U7 are duplicates of standard INT symbols (F18, F23) and therefore not really needed. Others are considered to be very difficult to maintain (eg public houses and restaurants) and/or of limited value (as they are fairly common, eg refuse bins, car parks, or obsolete for users, eg telephones). UKHO concluded that only symbols U1.1, 1.2, 2, 3 and 4 are of direct use to leisure boaters, and that symbols U29 and U30 are of more general use as landmarks. Accordingly, all other symbols in Section U will be removed from GB standard nautical charts on an opportunity basis, although they may be retained on adopted charts. They will not be included in UKHO's database

The symbol for a post office (F63) is also of limited value and very difficult to maintain (especially in UK, where many post offices have been or will be closed). It will therefore be removed from GB standard nautical charts on an opportunity basis, although they may be retained on adopted charts. Whether F63 should be retained in INT1 as a current symbol is to be determined by CSPCWG.

Conclusions

Few special small craft symbols are useful on standard nautical charts. Most are very difficult to maintain and thus undermines the chart's credibility.

Recommendations

Other HOs may wish to consider UKHO's change of policy.

INT symbol U1.1 could be transferred to section F (F11). Additional symbols for yacht berths without facilities (F12), visitors' berths (F19.2) and moorings (Q45) could be made-up and included in section F11, F12.

Symbols for caravan and camping sites may have some use as landmarks and could be included (as black symbols) in INT1 Section E (E37, E38).

Section U could be permanently removed from INT1.

Justification and Impacts

Justification: the usefulness of small craft (leisure) symbols on standard nautical charts is debatable
reduce chart maintenance
Remove clutter
Completes outstanding low priority CSPCWG work item.

Impacts: changes to INT1
Some additional work on NE and NC
Possible changes to chart border software.

Action required of CSPCWG

The CSPCWG is invited to:

- a. note UKHO's change of policy
- b. consider whether this should be recommended to the IHO community
- c. consider whether any changes are required to INT1
- d. UKHO would be interested to know whether HO with databases are including small craft symbols.