

9th CSPWG MEETING
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 13-16 November, 2012

Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG

Recommendations for compilation practice (large scales first?)

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| Submitted by: | Chairman (UK) |
| Executive Summary: | To review best compilation practice in the order of updating charts for new information. |
| Related Documents: | S-4 Part B, S-11 Part A |
| Related Projects: | |

Introduction / Background.

In UK, a very long-standing practice is to update the largest scale chart first for new information. Second- and smaller-scale charts are updated subsequently and in scale order if capacity does not allow simultaneous production or if the significance of the change is reduced.

Analysis / Discussion.

Within a series of charts covering the same waters, chart content in terms of its cartographic detail and resolution is greatest at the largest scale. At smaller scales, this detail is generalised, with only a selection of the available source data portrayed. This selection is based upon the significance of the information to the mariner and the design purpose of the chart. At smaller scales this selection, by necessity, has to be more rigorous.

It is understood that the mariner wishes to see 'vertical consistency' in his charts, where the same essential data content (e.g. limiting channel depth) is portrayed throughout the chart scales, subject to appropriate cartographic selection and generalisation.

Further, the mariner is usually encouraged to use the largest scale chart appropriate to his needs. Updating the largest scale chart first best supports this practice.

From the perspective of the HO, new data is invariably assessed first against the portrayal on the largest scale chart. Consequently, vertical consistency is also beneficial to the HO in simplifying the task of generating any Notices to Mariners required. [It may be possible to update smaller-scale charts by Notice to Mariners Block (patch) in instances where the changed detail is constrained in extent; in this case the NM Block may be issued coincidentally with the chart new edition.]

Are there circumstances where this principle may not apply? UK has noted that their principle of updating the largest scale chart first is not practiced by all HOs.

S-4 Part B-620.2 states *larger scale charts are generally updated first* but without an explanation as to why this is good practice.

Conclusions.

Discuss whether the principle of updating the largest scale chart first is common and confirm it is best practice for chart maintenance.

Recommendations.

To undertake a review of the clarity of this practice and principle in our documents.

Justification and Impacts.

The potential to improve the guidance in S-4 (section B-600?) and S-11A.

Action required of CSPCWG.

The CSPCWG is invited to:

Endorse the principle described.

Advise on how best to document and spread this practice.