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RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING MARINERS' ROUTEING GUIDES
—
**RECOMMANDATIONS CONCERNANT LES GUIDES D'ORGANISATION
DU TRAFIC POUR LES NAVIGATEURS**
—
**RECOMENDACIONES CONCERNIENTES A LAS GUIAS DE ORDENAMIENTO
DEL TRAFICO MARITIMO PARA NAVEGANTES**

Report of the ad hoc Working Group on Special Routeing Guides

Rapport du Groupe de travail ad hoc sur les Guides spéciaux pour l'organisation du trafic

Informe del Grupo de trabajo "ad-hoc" sobre Guías especiales de ordenamiento del tráfico marítimo (abreviado)

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Special Publication No. 49

I

RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING
MARINERS' ROUTEING GUIDES

REPORT OF THE
AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON
SPECIAL ROUTEING GUIDES

Approved by the Member States of the IHO
through Circular Letters 21 and 44 / 1984

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MEMBERSHIP of ad hoc WORKING GROUP ON SPECIAL ROUTEING GUIDES

Appendix B

1. Introduction

1.1 The IHO ad hoc Working Group on Special Routeing Guides evolved in response to an opinion by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) that in areas where there is a complex routeing system, comprising several related routeing measures with lengthy special provision and associated recommendations on navigation by ships using the system, a special routeing guide might be prepared which would give full information on all aspects of the routeing measure and that it would be desirable to have a degree of standardization of such guides.

1.2 The background on the establishment of the W.G. and its procedures appears in the progress report presented to the XIIth IHC in April 1982 (CONF.XII/DOC.18). Since that time new editions of the U.K. guide to the Channel (U.K. Chart 5500) and its French counterpart (with an analysis of mariners comments on the French product), a German Bight Passage Planning Guide by the FRG, and a brochure by the Netherlands to warn mariners of pending changes to the routeing measures in the Southern North Sea have been added to the documents considered by the Working Group. From all material considered, an iterative process has resulted in the recommendations contained in this report.

1.3 Committee Membership is given at Appendix B.

2. Recommendations

2.1 In developing the recommendations contained in Appendix A, the W.G. focused on the following objective :

To recommend for a special routeing guide of a finite area in which a complex, IMO-adopted routeing system exists, the following :

- a. the type of information which it is essential to include.
- b. the type of additional information which might usefully be included if space permits.
- c. the type of information which should not be included because, for example, it would either encourage mis-use of the Guide or would be subject to such frequent change that it would present a significant correction problem.
- d. the form, concept of layout, and most appropriate title, should it be agreed that these should be standardized.

2.2 The Definitions given in Part I of Appendix A elaborate on the criteria for the types of information noted in a., b., and c. above, and the recommended types of information under each of the three categories (ESSENTIAL, USEFUL and NOT APPROPRIATE), with a number of explanatory comments, will be found in Parts II, III, and IV of the Appendix. As to the other matters considered, concerning form et. al., the recommendations are as follows :

2.2.1 FORM : The preferred form of the Guide is a chart, but in special circumstances a booklet may be more appropriate. A chart is more quickly and easily corrected than is a booklet, whether in the custody of the distribution service as stock or in the hands of the mariner. The chart may be less than standard size, and may be specially folded to facilitate its use by the mariner. However, the size and shape of the geographic area to be covered and the amount of information to be included are key factors in the selection of the form.

2.2.2 LAYOUT : The layout of a guide should include both a plan of the geographic area involved on which the routeing measures, major NAVAIDS, etc. are shown graphically, and text giving appropriate guidance concerning passage planning, routeing, etc. The guide if in chart form should be

designed to be folded, so that it can be easily utilized by the mariner at the chart table in conjunction with the appropriate navigational chart for the area.

2.2.3 TITLE : The most appropriate title is deemed "Mariners' Routeing Guide" followed by the appropriate geographic area name in order to reflect both the "routeing" of the term "IMO-adopted routeing system", the existence of which in the geographic area covered is a prerequisite to issuance of the Guide, and the fact that the Guide is designed for use by the mariner (as opposed, for example, to the IMO publication "Ships' Routeing", which is designed for use by Administrations). It is believed that a standard title for this type of guide would benefit both the mariner and the producer as the mariner became familiar with the type of product. It would also help differentiate such Guides from other special guidance products (approaches to ports, etc.) which are excellent in their own way but do not relate to IMO-adopted routeing systems.

2.2.4 MAINTENANCE : Correction of the Guide by Notices to Mariners is seen as necessary to maintain credibility for the product in the eyes of the mariner. Experience with relevant guides has shown that only reasonable numbers of NM corrections are required to keep them current. Recommended criteria for the selection of information to be included in the guide excludes information which is subject to frequent change - such information should rather appear in the basic nautical product which deals with the subject matter, such as the Radio Lists.

2.2.5 LANGUAGE : The Guide should be produced in the English language, and may additionally also be produced in the National language, if other than English, by the producer nation. If in chart format, space limitations will probably preclude a bilingual single product. Although the Guide is not recommended to be an "INT" series product, the furnishing of reprint by the producer to others wishing to issue a Guide for the same geographic area would facilitate its production in other languages, and benefit both the hydrographer and the mariner. Acronyms and other abbreviations which may be unfamiliar to the average navigator should be avoided unless their definitions are also given.

2.2.6 GEOGRAPHIC AREAS REQUIRING GUIDES : There was broad agreement on six areas for coverage by a Guide related to IMO-adopted routeing systems. These are :

English Channel/Dover Strait
Malacca/Singapore Strait
North Sea (Eastern)
Baltic Entrance
Gulf of Suez
New York to Cape Cod, USA

In addition four other geographic areas are suggested for consideration, including :

Persian Gulf
Los Angeles
San Francisco
Strait of Juan de Fuca and contiguous waters

Limiting the Guides to only those waters where there is a clear need for them is seen as a means to establish the Guide as a forewarning to the mariner of the need for special care in the area covered. The views of the mariner as to areas for which guides would be most useful should be sought before embarking on the development of the product.

2.2.7 GUIDES FOR SITUATIONS NOT IMO-RELATED. Experience should be gained with the production and use of Guides related to IMO-routeing before considering whether to attempt standardization of guides for other situations. It is believed that most other guides excellently serve diverse needs in national waters, and that they may not be either as amenable to standardization as are the IMO routeing-related guides or enhanced by such standardization.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Member States of the IMO are recommended to consider the guidance contained in this report when contemplating, developing or producing special routeing guides which apply to areas in which complex IMO-approved routeing systems exist.

RECOMMENDED CONTENT OF A MARINERS' ROUTEING GUIDE

Definitions :

MARINERS' ROUTEING GUIDE (MRG) : A guidance document designed to be used in conjunction with nautical charts and other nautical publications in the geographic areas where there exists an International Maritime Organization (IMO)-adopted, complex routeing system comprising several related routeing measures with lengthy special provisions and associated recommendations on navigation by ships using the system. The MRG is intended to provide the mariner with the special information he requires for planning his safe navigation in the routeing system.

ESSENTIAL : Items recommended as ESSENTIAL for a Mariners' Routeing Guide include those subjects of major importance to safety of navigation in a particular geographic area on which the mariner would need to find guidance information. Not all items may be applicable to all geographic areas considered by such Guides because of differences in either environmental or administrative conditions. However, where an ESSENTIAL subject is not applicable (e.g. tides are a negligible factor, or there is no Broadcast Information Service) consideration should be given to the inclusion of a statement that the particular subject is not of significance or does not exist in the area.

USEFUL : Items recommended as USEFUL for a Mariners' Routeing Guide concern subjects of importance to safe navigation in a particular geographic area on which information would be helpful to the mariner and its collection in a single document (the MRG) would facilitate its use. Not all items will be applicable to all geographic areas considered by such Guides, and the relative importance of the items will vary between geographic areas. USEFUL items should be reviewed for each geographic area and those deemed of higher priority should be included in the guide whenever space permits.

NOT APPROPRIATE : Items recommended as NOT APPROPRIATE for a Mariners' Routeing Guide are those which either do not contribute to the enhancement of safety of navigation, or those which by their inclusion may actually reduce safety by obscuring presentation of essential information or by enticing the mariner to use the MRG as a nautical chart. In addition, information subject to frequent change should be avoided, being left to appear in the appropriate standard nautical document which is kept current through regular Notices to Mariners corrections.

USE OF IMO'S "SHIPS' ROUTEING" :

"Ships' Routeing" published by the IMO, is the authoritative publication to which hydrographic offices should turn for details of routeing measures adopted by IMO. The publication is primarily directed to Administrations and not designed for shipboard use, and hydrographic offices should take that into account in ensuring that all general and special rules, provisions and recommendations from the publication are given in adequate detail in any relevant Guides.

RECOMMENDED CONTENT OF A MARINERS' ROUTING GUIDE

II. SUBJECT MATTER CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL

| No. | ITEM | | SPECIAL COMMENTS |
|------|--|--|---|
| E 1 | <u>GRAPHICS</u> <u>PLAN(S) OF THE AREA, DEPICTING :</u> | | |
| E1.1 | Routing Measures | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Traffic separation schemes, deep-water routes, areas to be avoided, two-way routes, and associated roundabouts, precautionary areas, inshore traffic zones, etc. - using standard chart symbols where possible. Principal lines of traffic flow may be clarified by the use of tinted flow-lines. |
| E1.2 | Major NAVAIDS associated with Routing Measures, including those which help to relate routing locations to features shown on standard charts. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Showing position and any associated identifying name for correlation with the text, but not showing characteristics. |
| E1.3 | Warning that Plans are to be used for Navigational planning only and that this Guide must be used only in conjunction with, and as supplementary information to, the appropriate standard nautical chart(s) and other publications while navigating in the area. | | |
| E1.4 | Legend (key to symbols). Plan(s) to have graduated borders. Plan(s) to show significant names | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- To facilitate cross-reference to other publications and the inclusion of changes notified in NMs. |
| E1.5 | Depth limitations | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Alternatively, a statement on depth limitations may be given in E2.3) |
| E1.6 | Pilot boarding places. Officially designated anchorages or waiting areas. Cargo transshipment areas | | |

No.

ITPM

- E1.7 Points, or lines marking boundaries, where radio reporting is required
- E1.8 Locations of Coast Radio Stations and Traffic Surveillance Stations, with names

- Graphic complement to communications requirements text.

TEXTUAL INFORMATION FOR THE AREA, DESCRIBING :

PASSAGE PLANNING

(In all text, acronyms and other abbreviations which may be unfamiliar to the average navigator should be avoided unless their definitions are also included in the Guide).

- E.2 PASSAGE PLANNING
- E2.1 IMO-approved Rules or Recommendations on planning a passage through the area

- Not necessarily the verbatim text of the IMO "Rules and Recommendations on Navigation" which accompany some routing measures, but in enough detail to remove need for the mariner to consult the verbatim text which appears in the IMO document "Ships' Routing" and in nautical publications. Consideration should be given to distinguishing IMO-approved rules and recommendations from other advice, eg. by side-lining, or printing in a distinctive colour.

- E2.2 Specific advice, extracted where necessary from national Sailing Directions, on planning a passage through the area.

- E2.3 Underkeel clearance criteria and specific advice to deep draught ships (if not included in E2.1 or E2.2)

- Cross-referenced to E.6.1. Could include diagram to show predicted squat for large vessels, examples of calculations of "Tidal Windows", etc.

E 3 ROUTING

- E3.1 IMO-adopted Special Provisions and Warnings relating to specific Routing Measures

- Not necessarily the verbatim text of the IMO adopted "Special Provisions" and "Warnings" but in enough detail to remove any need for the mariner to consult the IMO document "Ships' Routing", or verbatim text from that document reproduced in nautical publications.

- E3.2 National Rules and recommendations relating to specific Routing Measures

SUBJECT MATTER CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL

SPECIAL COMMENTS

| No. | ITEM | |
|------|---|--|
| E 4 | <u>COMMUNICATIONS</u> | |
| E4.1 | Ship Reporting Systems | - Voluntary and mandatory radio reporting, with message formats. |
| E4.2 | Broadcast Information Services (Shipping movements, Nav Warnings, Weather) | - Giving times, frequencies, language of broadcasts, etc. |
| E4.3 | Flag or Whistle Signal code indicating destination, if appropriate. | |
| E4.4 | Special requirements for certain classes of vessels | |
| E 5 | <u>PILOTAGE</u> | |
| E5.1 | Compulsory Pilotage Information | |
| E5.2 | Contact and Boarding Area Information | - Primarily off-shore or 'deep-sea' pilotage, rather than harbour pilotage |
| E5.3 | Helicopter Boarding Guidance, where specific to the area | |
| E 6 | <u>NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</u> | |
| E6.1 | Tidal heights (preferably by Co-Tidal diagrams), negative surges, and swell | - Important feature where underkeel margins are critical and where tides must be exploited for safe passage of deep draft ships. Details will depend on situation. |

No. ITEM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U 1 GRAPHICS
PLAN(S) OF AREA, DEPICTING :

U1.1 Selected Depth Contours

U1.2 All significant NAVAIDS in area

- Showing positions and any associated identifying names for correlation with the text, but not characteristics. (If characteristics are shown they must be subject to correction by Notices to Mariners).

U1.3 Views and Radar Images

- Only where a mis-identification hazard is known to exist.

U1.4 Conversion scale, Fathoms/Metres/Feet

- Especially useful where draft limitation is a hazard.

U1.5 Positions and names of major Rescue Centers

U1.6 Ferry Crossings
U1.7 Zones, with times, of heavy fishing in vicinity of routing measures
U1.8 Zones under Constant Radar Surveillance

- If they regularly represent possible hazards. Occasional possible hazards (eg. Military practice and exercise areas; oil exploration activity; yachting activity) to be mentioned in text.

TEXTUAL INFORMATION FOR THE AREA, DESCRIBING :

U 2 PASSAGE PLANNING

U2.1 General Planning Principles

- As outlined in UK Dept of Trade's publication 'A Guide to the Planning and Conduct of Sea Passages' which gives four stages: Appraisal, Planning, Execution, Monitoring.

U2.2 Aide Memoire - a check list of items for passage appraisal

- As in Annex III of the above publication.

No. _____ ITEM _____ SUBJECT MATTER CONSIDERED USEFUL _____ SPECIAL COMMENTS _____

U 3 ROUTING

- U3.1 Selected Quotations from IMO's document "Ships' Routing", Part A, General Provisions
- U3.2 Quotations from, or Discussion of, Rule 10, COLREGS-72

- Particularly relevant for navigators are paragraphs 2, Definitions, and 8, The use of routing systems :

U 4 COMMUNICATIONS

- U4.1 Two-way Radio Communications other than ship reporting systems
- U4.2 Search and Rescue

- RT channels available between ships and SAR aircraft including additional on-scene channels and call-sign.

U 6 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- U6.1 Currents and Tidal Streams
- U6.2 Visibility Restrictions

U 7 GENERAL

- U7.1 References to other publications
- U7.2 Nautical Chart Index
- U7.3 Recommended Nautical Charts

- Unless a Guide includes ALL details from other publications (such as Lists of Lights) which is most unlikely.

- Suggest that if the recommended charts are in the National Series of the IHO producer, inclusion of the words "or equivalent" would be appropriate.

SUBJECT MATTER CONSIDERED USEFUL

SPECIAL COMMENTS

| No. | ITEM | |
|------|---|---|
| U7.4 | Anchorage Area Guidance | |
| U8 | <u>REFERENCES TO ELECTRONIC NAVIGATIONAL AIDS</u> | |
| U8.1 | Radio Beacons | - Giving identification signals, range, frequency etc. |
| U8.2 | Racones | - Should be treated the same as other local NAVAIDS. |
| U8.3 | Broad-Area NAVAID Systems | - With information on the quality of systems locally, if of special significance. |

IV. SUBJECT MATTER CONSIDERED NOT APPROPRIATE

GRAPHICS

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| N 1 | <u>PLAN(S) OF AREA, DEPICTING :</u> | |
| N1.1 | Soundings | |
| N1.2 | Detailed characteristics of local NAVAIDS. | - It is important to discourage the use of Guide plans as substitutes for navigation charts. |

TEXTUAL INFORMATION

PASSAGE PLANNING

| | | |
|------|--|---|
| N2.1 | Verbatim wording of preambles to IMO Resolutions, although the Recommendations themselves will often appear under E2.1 | - For example, "THE ASSEMBLY, RECALLING Article 16(1) of the Convention ... BEING AWARE of ... BEING ALSO AWARE |
|------|--|---|

No.

ITEM

SUBJECT MATTER CONSIDERED NOT APPROPRIATE

SPECIAL COMMENTS

10

N 7

GENERAL

N 7.1 Port Check-List

- VHF channels at ports, port regulations and services, etc., considered far too changeable to include in any publication (except Radio Lists for appropriate data).

APPENDIX B - APPENDICE B

AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON SPECIAL ROUTEING GUIDES
GROUPE DE TRAVAIL AD HOC SUR LES GUIDES SPECIAUX POUR
L'ORGANISATION DU TRAFIC MARITIME
MEMBERSHIP - MEMBRES

Federal Republic of Germany - République fédérale d'Allemagne

Dr. Ing. Werner BETTAC
 Deutsches Hydrographisches Institut
 Bernhard-Nocht-Strasse 78
 Postfach 220
 D-2000 Hamburg 4

Japan - Japon

Dr. Kazuhiko SATO (1981-1982)
 Director of Publications Division
 Hydrographic Department
 Maritime Safety Agency
 3-1, Tsukiji 5 Chome
 Chuo KU
 TOKYO 104

Mr. Shoji KANEKO (1983 onward)
 Director, Notices to Mariners
 Division

The Netherlands - Pays-Bas

Mr. B. BUIS
 Dienst der Hydrografie van de Koninklijke Marine
 171, Badhuisweg
 P.O. Box 90704
 2509 LS 's-Gravenhage

Republic of South Africa - République d'Afrique du Sud

Cdr. F.D. WILKINSON, SAN (Ret.)
 Hydrographic Office
 Maritime Headquarters
 Private Bag
 Tokai
 7966 Cape Town

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics - Union des Républiques Socialistes Soviétiques

Captain (First Rank) R. ROMEYKO-GOURKO
 Head Department of Navigation and Oceanography
 8, 11 liniya, B-34
 Leningrad 199034

United Kingdom - Royaume-Uni

Mr. Derek NEWSON
 Ministry of Defence
 Hydrographic Department
 Taunton
 Somerset TA1 2DN

International Hydrographic Bureau (Convenor)

Bureau Hydrographique International (Organisateur)
 Captain James E. AYRES, USN (Ret)