

**IHO Colours & Symbols Maintenance Working Group (C&SMWG)
15th Meeting, BSH, Rostock, Germany, 2-4 May 2005**

IHB LETTER TO PL SUBSCRIBERS

IHB File N° S3/8151/CSMWG

29 April 2005

IHO PRESENTATION LIBRARY FOR ECDIS

Edition 3.3, March 2004

To: All subscribers to the IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS¹

Ref : IHB Letter S3/8151/CSMWG to PresLib subscribers, dated 28 June 2004

Dear Sir or Madam,

The above-referenced IHB letter (copy annexed to this letter) provided information on the new editions of the IHO ECDIS Standard S-52, Appendix 2 "Colour & Symbol Specifications for ECDIS" (Edition 4.2) and its Annex A "IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS" (PresLib, Edition 3.3), which had been published in March 2004.

That letter included a timetable for the implementation of the new PresLib. Subsequently, an ECDIS type-approval agency expressed difficulties in implementing the timetable as its unclear wording could have various interpretations. Further consideration was then given to the matter within the IHO, and, as a result, the following more precise wording has been agreed:

- **ECDIS systems to be type -approved for the first time after 1st January 2005 must conform to Edition 3.3 of the PresLib from 1st July 2005.**
- **ECDIS systems already type-approved as of 1st January 2005 should upgrade to Edition 3.3 of the PresLib at the earliest opportunity, but not later than 1st January 2006.**
- **ECDIS systems that are already in use onboard ships should be upgraded to Edition 3.3 of the PresLib at the earliest opportunity.**

You are therefore invited to take note of this revised timetable for PresLib e3.3 implementation. The PresLib e3.3 information paper which is on the IHO website has been updated accordingly.

This revised timetable also supersedes the provisions for "grace periods" which appear on page iii of the PresLib e3.3 documentation.

¹ Publication S-52, Appendix 2, Annex A

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Barbor', written in a cursive style.

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director

Encl: Annex - IHB Letter S3/8151/CSMWG of 28 June 2004

Copy to: International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) – Technical Committee 80
Comité International Radio-Maritime (CIRM)
International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)

Copy of IHB Letter S3/8151/C&SMWG to PL subscribers dated 28 June 2004

Dear Sir or Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that new editions of the IHO ECDIS Standard S-52, Appendix 2 "Colour & Symbol Specifications for ECDIS" and its Annex A "IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS" (PresLib), have been published in March 2004.

The changes can be summarised as:

- Colour & Symbol Specifications for ECDIS: existing edition 4.1 replaced by new edition 4.2
- IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS (PresLib): existing edition 3.2 replaced by new edition 3.3

These new editions bring into force all the items contained in the two Deferred Amendments issued since July 1997, plus the changes agreed at the latest two meetings of the IHO Colours and Symbols Maintenance Working Group (C&SMWG), in Hamburg in 2002 and Ottawa in 2003. These latter changes are described in amendment 'd6', which is issued together with the new package.

Edition 3.3 of the PresLib marks a considerable change in format: The Symbol Library is illustrated in hard-copy format, with the offsets of the pivot being explicitly indicated, as opposed to the previous specifications where the Symbol Library was the only part not available as a printable document. This is the biggest change in the new edition (in size as well as innovation), with the hard-copy Symbol Library having about 600 pages, i.e. one symbol description per page. This document provides, for each symbol, its shape and dimensions translated from the digital symbol file, its colour, the links to the paper chart symbology, as in IHO INT1, etc. The entire Presentation Library is now available in a human-readable form on a CD-ROM: This becomes the authoritative "official" version. The machine-readable digital version of the Symbol Library is also part of the package for those who would be interested in using it. The same change applies to ECDIS Chart 1, which is issued with the PresLib as a graphic file and is available in S-57 format as well.

In addition to the hard-copy Symbol Library, the new PresLib includes a number of significant improvements, in particular:

- a reduction from five to three colour tables, based on the finding that mariners prefer minimal adjustment to the ECDIS settings;
- the exclusion from the PresLib of Navigational symbols – accountability for these is transferred to IEC 61174 (ECDIS) and IEC 62288 (Navigational symbols);
- the introduction of colour calibration requirements for flat panel displays, in line with IEC 61174;
- changes to several Conditional Symbology Procedures, for example:
 - a) to reduce screen clutter in the case of wrecks of unknown depth located in deep water, by calculating a safe clearance depth, and
 - b) to generate contours from the edges of the depth areas and dredged areas, and to label them on mariners' demand.

New ECDIS-systems must now make use of Edition 3.3 of the PresLib. Existing systems will benefit from upgrading, but will operate satisfactorily though not optimally using the existing PresLib. In other words, modification of existing software is not essential for continued operation and use of ENC's, though certain new features included in the new PresLib may not display optimally or at all.

The timetable for the implementation of the new PresLib is therefore:

- ECDIS to be type-approved after 1st January 2005 must conform to Edition 3.3 of the PresLib.
- Approved ECDIS systems that are already in use should upgrade to Edition 3.3 of the PresLib at the earliest opportunity.

Fees for the new PresLib² are as follows:

- 1.500 € for new subscribers,
- 500 € for update of earlier subscribers,
- free of charge for active contributors to the IHO Colours & Symbols Maintenance Working Group.

ECDIS, like all other modern navigation equipment is constantly evolving and improving. This requires that underlying specifications such as the PresLib must be maintained to reflect these developments. The PresLib fees are used to finance and support this necessary maintenance.

The aim of the PresLib is to specify an interpretation and symbolisation of the ENC that is clear and unambiguous, to ensure uniformity between different brands of ECDIS. The IHO welcomes user's opinions on S-52 App.2 and encourages the use of a new S52 FAQ area on the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr) or by direct contact with the Chairman of the IHO C&SMWG (mathias.jonas@bsh.de).

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

(Original signed)

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director

² In addition to Ed. 3.3 of the PL, the package also includes Ed. 4.2 of the IHO C&S Specs.