

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

DEVELOPING AMENDMENTS TO THE PRESLIB

On 5 April '04 Olaf Gundersrud proposed on the OEF that where a wreck, rock or obstruction has a depth given by the VALSOU attribute this depth should be displayed in addition to all other soundings whenever the mariner selects the viewing group "Soundings", whether or not the underlying obstruction is on the display.

This obviously should have been done from the start, and Eaton and Le Bihan discussed with Astle and Munn of CARIS how to implement it in the PresLib. As usual we tried to judge whether manufacturers would be able to implement our remedies, and as a result we came up with two ways of displaying the soundings over a danger (see "*OEF DISCUSSION - SOUNDINGS OVER DANGERS*"). This made us realise that as the number of ECDIS producers increases the requirement of searching for a solution, or a number of solutions, that will fit every existing ECDIS is becoming more and more difficult.

Consequently I don't think we should try to please everyone in future. Instead, I think the responsibility of the IHO should be to maintain an effective, single-solution PresLib, capable of displaying any ENC. I see three justifications for this:

- 1.) To provide a standard display which any effective ECDIS should be able to equal or to improve upon. This means the IHO has to be prepared to introduce relatively difficult solutions when necessary, rather than compromising the effectiveness of ECDIS by holding the solutions down to too simple a level,
- 2.) To ensure that we never ask the manufacturer to do something which we ourselves are unable to do, while accepting the fact that he may have to modify our solution (or his original approach) in order to comply.
- 3.) To provide a reliable display method for direct use by non-commercial users, such as research institutes,

So I think the IHO procedure should be to continue to maintain an effective, single solution PresLib, and at the same time describe clearly what result is required for each change, and let the manufacturer achieve this by whatever means he prefers.

Mike.