

**IHO CSMWG 17  
NHS Stavanger, Norway 11-13 June 2007****SYNCHRONIZED LIGHTS**

Background information only.

Even though ECDIS does not portray nor provide access to any attributes for collection objects, either this or a similar mechanism needs to be considered for S-100 and S-101 in particular. For those HOs using a database approach to chart products, the collection objects provide a 'relationship' between various features, which can be helpful when updating charted features.

One of the most common examples used in AU is **C\_AGGR** for synchronised lights. The attribute STATUS 15: *synchronised* can be used on individual **LIGHTS**, but there is no relationship to what is actually synchronised, unless a **C\_AGGR** is formed. This is useful for database administration within HOs but is of no use to ECDIS users who cannot select collection objects nor their attributes. We have more complex examples where 3 sets of the main lights within a channel are synchronised together, while the remaining 8 sets of lights are also synchronised (together) separately to the other 3, but are lit when the main lights are in eclipse. So we have 2 separate groups of synchronised lights which are also synchronised. There is no adequate method of encoding this information for the mariner using S-57, except in INFORM or TXTDSC, which is very untidy.

This topic may have been discussed with the recent S-100 Focus Group, and probably fits well with the proposed agenda items 3.12

I know some people are asking why encode data such as collection objects in S-57 when S-52 doesn't portray it?

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