

Paper for Consideration by ENCWG1

Issues with Omnidirectional lights

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Executive Summary:	This paper request publishing of a fix for a change made for omnidirectional lights.
Related Documents:	N/A.
Related Projects:	Recently published new editions of S-52 and S-64

Introduction / Background

1. ENCWG has had a feedback collection time period about use of new editions of the S-52 and S-64. The collected feedback was made available for the ENCWG-TG1 meeting 8.-10. Feb 2016 Monaco.
2. One part of the feedback was that the change for omnidirectional lights included in the new edition 4.0 of the S-52 Presentation library is not perfect and has a serious side effect. Namely the new style presentation ignores that there might be multiple omnidirectional lights in the same location.
3. Before the omnidirectional lights were symbolised as flares and in case of multiple omnidirectional lights in same location the flares were drawn in different directions.
4. The new style is a circle around the location, if the nominal range is longer than 10 NM (for less than 10 NM the style is flares as before). There are two kind of problems: First and more serious is that the drawing rule does not include any method to inform mariner about the existence of multiple omnidirectional lights in same location. Second, not so serious for safety, but very annoying, is the practical consequence that as result of this change many coastal areas are totally cluttered by large number of omnidirectional light circles.
5. The first problem could be solved simply by modifying the conditional symbology procedure LIGHTSxx to increase the diameter of the circle for each multiple omnidirectional light.
6. The second problem could be eased by changing the nominal range for selection between flares and circles from 10 Nm to 15 NM. The 15 NM is not an arbitrary value, but the value specified for paper chart for selection between flare and circle presentation.

Conclusions

7. Current published version of the presentation of the omnidirectional lights is not fit for the purpose and requires improvement. Technically the improvement is quite straight forward to implement.
8. The changes proposed in paragraphs 5 and 6 are substantial, which means that just a clarification is not acceptable method of publishing this change. Publishing should be as edition 4.1.0 of the S-52 Presentation library and as edition 3.1.0 of the S-64.

Recommendations

10. Especially the problem around multiple omnidirectional lights may grant publishing of new substantial versions of both S-52 Presentation library and S-64 although it is known that such versions must go through the HSSC approval (Nov 2016) and member state voting (Jan 2017). It should be noted that this change is independent from the foreseen publishing of the clarifications (S-52 Preslib ed 4.0.2 and S-64 ed 3.0.2), which can be done based on approval of ENCWG alone.

Action Required of ENCWG

The ENCWG is invited to:

- a) note the issue presented in this paper
- b) consider what is the best way forward and act based on that decision