

Paper for Consideration by ENCWG2
Navtor Response to Presentation of Light description string paper

Submitted by:	
Executive Summary:	This paper highlights discrepancy between the rules given in Presentation Library (edition 4.01) and correspondent test of S-64 (Edition 3.0.1 - June 2015)
Related Documents:	N/A.
Related Projects:	Recently published new editions of S-52 and S-64

Few days ago the answer on our remark about the presentation of Light description string was published on IHO site (see comments to the item ENCWG2-6.1, http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/ENCWG/ENCWG2/ENCWG2-6.1B_CommentsOnENCWG2-6.1A.pdf)

First of all it is necessary to notice that more than once we asked to replace the existing letter with more detailed description of the problem. Our renewed letter is attached at the end of the current document.

From the comments made by Hannu Peiponen (see item 5) we can see that the basic argument against our proposal is that in the correspondent chapter of PL (10.6.3) the requirements to space Light Characteristic and Colour Characteristic are absent (*in case if brackets for Signal groups are absent*). Please note that the requirement about the **obligatory** space (or full stop) after the Colour Characteristic in this clause is also absent but for some reason it raises any doubts. In this clause the rules for spacing of the elements are not described at all.

But we would like to remind that in the same clause of presentation library there are the recommendations to follow the rules described in S-4 (in this case it is the clause B-471.9). In our opinion such rules should be applied to all components of such description.

In the renewed remark we want to pay attention to the various presentation of Signal group Characteristic on the different plots of S-64 and ECDIS Chart 1. In our opinion such diversity for Signal group presentation in test data plots causes unnecessary disputes during Type Approval.

More strict description and rules for presentation of Light Characteristic becomes relevant in case if the proposal to show such string will be approved for the Sector lights.

We understand that in some cases the composition of Light description string cannot be strictly described (as it was in previous c-code of CS LITDSN02) – such composition in complex cases depends on the vision and experience of a paper chart cartographer. But nevertheless, in our opinion, the basic rules should be described unambiguously.

In conclusion we want to express thanks to Hannu for his remark about the wrong abbreviation of LITCHR attribute *Flashing* (Fl instead of FL). We have not noticed this typo in the clause 10.6.3 of PL - in the correspondent table in this clause the abbreviation is correct.

Renewed NAVTOR remarks about presentation of Light description string in Presentation Library

Presentation of Light description string

In current version of Presentation Library 4.01 the principles for presentation of Light description string are described in chapter 10.6.3 (Light Description Text Strings). Instead of previous C-code in LITDSN02 Conditional procedure these principles are given in the form of textual description.

In particular, it is recommended to follow the rules which are given in paper chart convention. In this convention (REGULATIONS OF THE IHO FOR INTERNATIONAL (INT) CHARTS and CHART SPECIFICATIONS OF THE IHO, Edition 4.6.0 – April 2016) the rules for spacing of the elements of light description are described in the clause B-471.9, namely:

a. Insert full stops (or spaces):

- *at the end of the characteristic rhythm (except where there is a bracket);*
- *at the end of all colours (not between colours);*
- *after AI (Alternating) - although AI is not a rhythmic characteristic it is often juxtaposed with one.*


b. Omit full stops:

- *after s (seconds);*
- *after m (elevation);*
- *after M (range);*
- *where there is a bracket;*
- *at the end of the light description.*

The example of Light description string given at the end of the chapter 10.6.3 of PL completely corresponds to the mentioned above rules: **FL W 30s7m10M**

In particular, the space in this case is inserted after the description of Light Characteristic (*rhythm characteristic*) because Signal group attribute in this example is set to '(1)' and its presentation is not needed.

But in the correspondent test plot of S-64 (3.1.6 Text Grouping) such Light description is presented without the necessary in this case space (SIGGRP attribute is absent):

Action
View cell AA5STNDR.000 Switch off all text group controls and switch on only the “Light description” control located under the “Other Text” control. Verify that the objects are displayed correctly as presented in the plot.
Results
The objects are shown as presented in the screen plot below


Furthermore, in our opinion in the chapter 10.6.3 of PL the rules for brackets output of Signal group attribute are clearly defined, namely:

When the signal group value is set to or include “()” and/or “(1)” there is no requirement for this to be populated in the light description text. Only when the signal group value differs from the above mentioned values must the value be output on the ECDIS screen, this follows the paper chart convention Mariners are used to seeing.

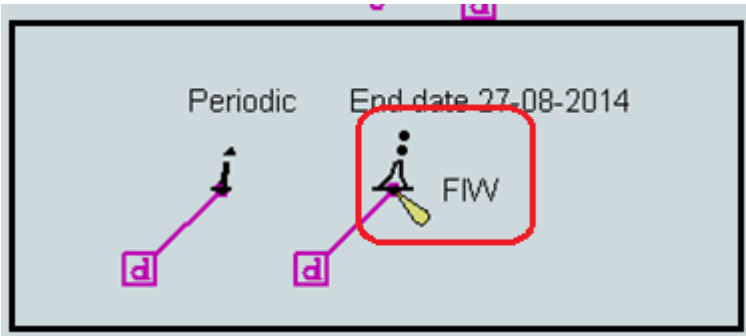
But the test plots of S-64 and ECDIS CHART 1 throws into confusion – in some cases brackets with single Signal groups are shown and in some cases not.

ECDIS CHART 1

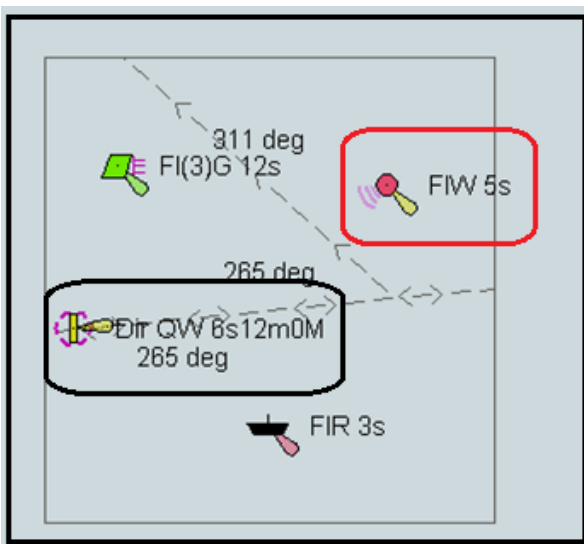
Dataset AA4C1XMS (ECDIS SYMBOLS): Signal group is set to ‘(1)’. Number of signals is presented



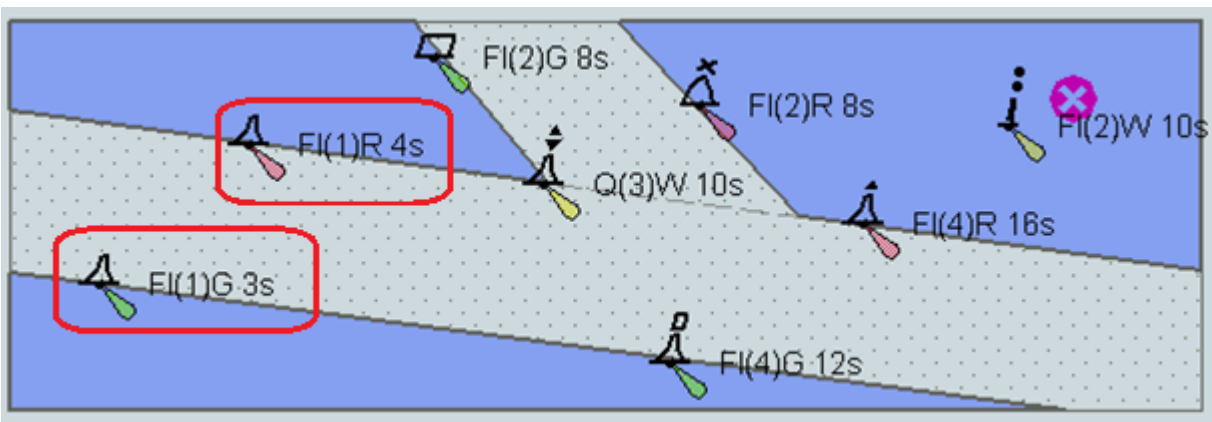
Dataset AA5C1AB1 (Information about chart display (A, B)): Signal group is set to ‘(1)’ but it is not presented. Space between Light Characteristic and Colour is absent.



Dataset AA5C1PRS (Aid and Services (P, R, S, T)): Signal group is set to 'Undefined'. Space between Light Characteristic and Colour is absent.

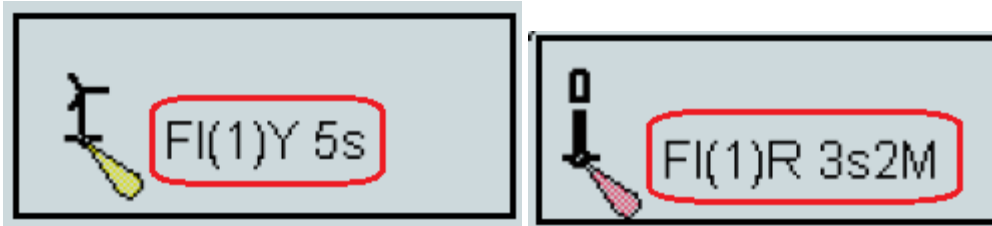


Dataset AA5C1Q02 (TopMarks (Q)): Signal group is set to '(1)'. Number of signals is presented



Test 3.3.9 (Display of additional Chart Information Symbol)

In both cases Signal group is set to '(1)'. Number of signals is presented.



Unfortunately the quality of test plots for the data from *Power Up* (e.g., test 2.2.1) is very bad but it seems that this rule is violated also.

Conclusion

Such diversity for Signal group presentation in test data plots causes unnecessary disputes during Type Approval. The rule for presentation of Lights description string should be unambiguous.

Recommended action

- a) Improve the presentation for Light description (insert space) in case when the brackets for Signal group number are absent (SIGGRP attribute is absent). For example, for *test plot 3.1.6 (Text Grouping)* it should be: **FI W**.
Same presentation should be in case if SIGGRP is set to 'Undefined' (*Dataset AA5C1PRS (Aid and Services (P, R, S, T))*)
- b) Delete presentation (brackets) for Signal group in case if the attribute SIGGRP is set to '()' or '(1)'. Insert space before Colour description. Replace all correspondent test plots in S-64 and ECDIS CHART 1.
- c) Otherwise, correspondent rule in the chapter 10.6.3 of PL should be re-worded and explanatory notes should be added to Presentation library and test results of S-64.