

Paper for Consideration by ENCWG4

Portrayal of Dredged Areas depths in ECDIS

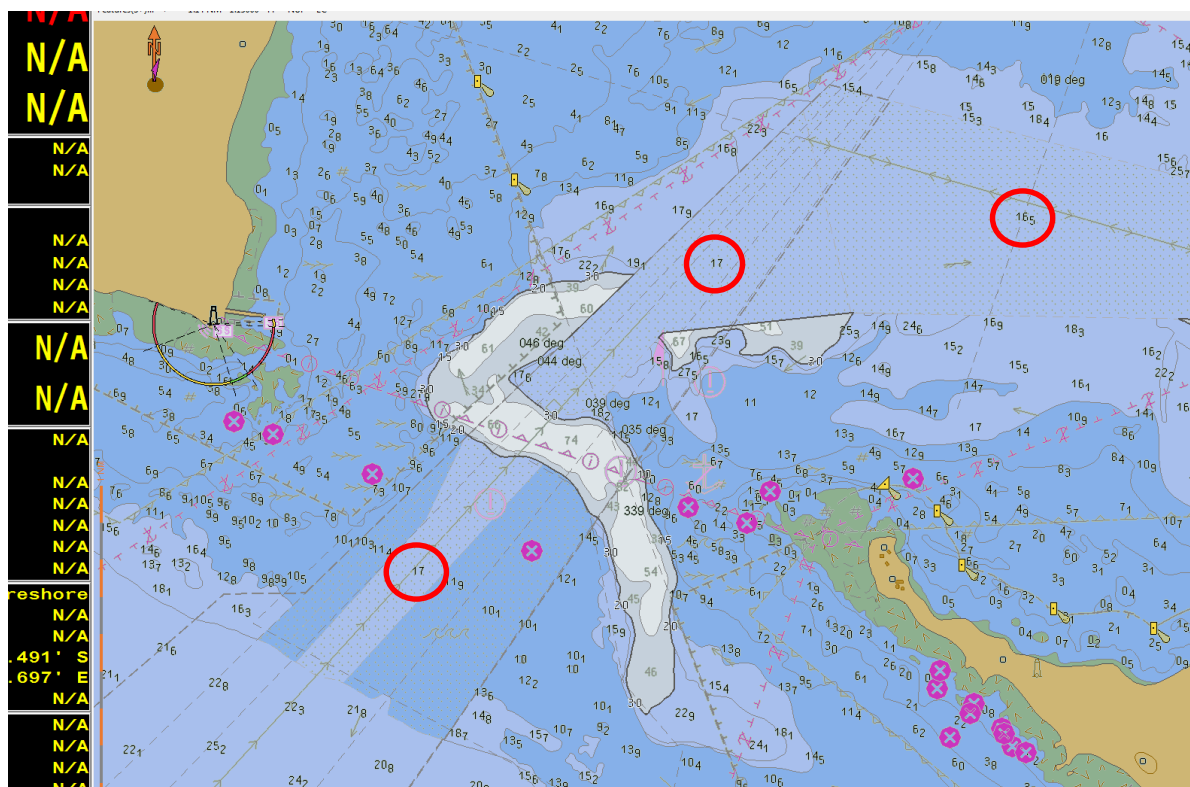
Submitted by:	Australia (AHO)
Executive Summary:	Mariners have expressed to the AHO their willingness to see the DRGARE depth value displayed in ECDIS instead of relying on the 'pick report' function to obtain this information.
Related Documents:	N/A
Related Projects:	S101PT

Introduction / Background

Paper charts show the design depth of dredged areas in a way that is always available to mariners. At the moment S-52 does not have any provisions to display DRVAL1 as a SOUNDG object or text to visually indicate this important information to mariners. This issue has been previously reported by the AHO to DIPWG in 2005.

Analysis/Discussion

In numerous occasions and in different forums mariners have expressed their willingness to have the dredged area depths displayed in ECDIS. The AHO internal encoding instructions provide mandatory guidance to 'double-encode' the design depth of DRGAREs (as expressed in DRVAL1) with a sounding (SOUNDG) of the same value. Depending on the size of the area, more than one SOUNDG object may be required.



Conclusions

ECDIS should provide mariners with the information of their interest in the most straightforward way. In this case by automatically displaying dredged depths instead of having to perform 'pick-report' on the DRGARE.

Recommendations'

- In the short term, amend S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A (UOC) section 5.5 to promote the encoding of DRVAL1 of the DRGARE as one or more SOUNDG objects.

Note: FOR REASONS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING

- In the medium term, update S-52 to require the display of DRGARE depths by ECDIS (same viewing group as soundings).

Justification and Impacts

A new 'Correction' to S-52 PL should be prepared in order to improve ECDIS presentation in the light of practical experience.

Action Required of ENCWG

The ENCWG is invited to support the recommendation.