

12th CHRIS MEETING
Valparaiso, Chile, 23-25 October 2000

ECS DATA STANDARD DEVELOPMENT
(Statement by Mortimer Rogoff, NECSA)

1. Mr. Mortimer Rogoff, President of NECSA is the Convenor of ISO/TC 8/SC 6 /WG 7 (ECS database).
2. The Working Group has published its Working Draft (WD) in July, 2000.
3. The Committee Draft (CD) is to be published in July, 2001. The Draft International Standard (DIS) is due by April 2002.
4. The WG is divided into five Drafting Groups:
 - Content
 - Quality
 - Colors and Symbols
 - Updating
 - Tests
5. Outlines of each of the five sections listed above are due on November 1, 2000, and will be distributed to the entire Working Group.
6. A few general principles have been adopted:
 - a. One standard will be written, rather than attempting to establish different classes of ECS databases used in different types of vessels. It will be up to national administrations to set different levels of compliance with various sections of the standard, depending upon local conditions and requirements.
 - b. No particular format for the data will be required. Databases submitted for compliance testing will be accompanied with full instructions and programs needed to read and display the data.
 - c. Databases submitted for compliance testing will be accompanied by the producer's documents that attest to his attainment of recognized standards of quality.
 - d. Each database producer will be responsible for the availability of updating data for his database.
7. Application of the standard, and compliance with its various sections will result in displays of navigation data that meets the highest standards of navigation safety.

8. The Working Group comprises experts from eight (8) countries:

Germany	Norway
Holland	Russian Federation
Italy	United Kingdom
Japan	United States

Those contributing represent Maritime Authorities, Mariners, Equipment Producers, Database Producers, Hydrographers and Classification Societies.

9. The Working Group employs email as much as possible for the exchange of drafts, in order to expedite the work. There is less reliance on physical meetings made necessary by the shortness of the project schedule.
10. Adoption of the standard will involve voting by the eight countries listed above. Voting will apply to the CD and DIS as well as the final document.
11. We welcome participation by experts from all countries, in all Drafting Groups. If interested, please contact Mr. Mortimer Rogoff or Mr. Fred Ganjon at the following email addresses:

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