17th CHRIS Meeting Rostock, Germany, 5-9 September 2005

Report of the Data Protection Scheme Working Group (DPSWG)

Submitted by:	Robert Sandvik, Primar Stavanger
Executive summary:	Report on the work undertaken and progress made by the working group since CHRIS 16, and future plans
Actions to be taken:	CHRIS to note the report and endorse future plans
Related documents:	CL 52/2005
Related projects:	Not applicable

1. Officers

- a. Chairman: Robert Sandvik
- b. Vice Chairman: Vacant
- c. Secretary: Vacant

2. Membership

No change in membership since CHRIS 16. Good mixture of experienced representatives from industry and hydrographic offices.

3. Meetings

- DPSWG 4: 22-23 June 2004. Objectives of the meeting were to assess feedback on the published S-63 standard and devise a transition plan to an operational S-63 standard
- No new meetings are currently scheduled

4. Progress

There has been very little progress in any work of the DPSWG since the last meeting in June 2004. Focus of the working group members has been to support the current use of the standard. This has mainly been related to the IHB issuing S-63 Data Server certificates according to procedures, and the working group members responding to any support questions raised on the S-63 and DPSWG discussion groups on Open ECDIS Forum. (The addition of a spam filter on OEF is highly recommended!)

A concern raised by the working group at CHRIS 16, was to prepare a transition plan to a fully operational S-63 which was harmonised with input and recommendations from especially the OEMs. Several new Data Servers started at the same time to deliver S-63 compliant ENC services. They quickly experienced a need to harmonise some of the service content since they would not like to delay any ENC service provision until the OEMs had all implemented full support for S-63. (A minor development, but require resources and long time to upgrade all the current OEM installations).

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) and UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) agreed with the Electronic Chart Centre AS (ECC) to establish an online S-63 ENC signature service (ref. CL 52/2005). It enables all Data Servers to sign their ENC data using a private/public key pair which could immediately be read by all compatible OEMs. NHS and UKHO also came to an agreement to share common cell keys to support the development of integrated ENC services for their distributors and VARs.

The consequence of this work was that any new Data Servers, distributors or VARs could develop a new integrated ENC service which could immediately be read by all OEMs and were not in conflict with each other. No development works were required by the OEMs.

Another positive consequence is that we now have an operational S-63 scheme even though it is not using all the features available in the Data Server certificate and a Scheme Administrator certificate issued by IHB (would require development among the OEMs). The operators in the value chain found and established a compromise and harmonisation on the use of S-63 enabling immediate delivery of integrated ENC services.

The work of DPSWG is now basically reduced to assess the operational experiences from the Data Servers and OEMs using the current regime for the distribution of protected ENC and assess if any changes shall be applied or delayed until a possible new profile of S-63 must be developed to support an ENC Product Specification based on S-57e4. This will also require a discussion on the originator and issuer of the Scheme Administrator certificate.

5. Other Matters

S-57e4

The cur rent edition of the S-63 standard specifically uses some of the fields in the S-57 to specify how ENCs are to be encrypted and digitally signed. Since S-57e4 contains a change in structure, content and encoding, the publication of a new ENC Product Specification based on S-57e4 will also require development of a new edition of S-63 to support it.

The extent and content of this work has not been defined, but can take 612 months to complete since it will require:

- Understanding of the S-57e4 standard among the working group members
- Write and review a new S-63 profile for an ENC Product Specification based on S-57e4
- Prepare a new test specification and testdata for the new profile of S-63

This work will not start until a decision and plan for management of an ENC Product Specification in S-57e4 has been reached.