

Nomination of Mr. Magnus Wallhagen (Sweden) for the position as Vice-Chair of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC)

As the National Hydrographer of Sweden, I have the pleasure to nominate Mr. Magnus Wallhagen for the position as Vice-Chair of the HSSC.

For information of Mr. Magnus Wallhagen, please see the attached document Annex A to this letter.

If you have any questions please contact me at patrik.wiberg@sjofartsverket.se.

Yours sincerely



Patrik Wiberg
Swedish Hydrographer

Attached to this document: Annex A

HSSC Vice-Chair Nomination – Mr. Magnus Wallhagen, Sweden

Sweden has nominated Mr. Magnus Wallhagen for the role of Vice Chair of HSSC, under the terms given in the IHO Circular Letter 16/2019.

Mr. Wallhagen is currently the Swedish delegate in the HSSC and has been so since HSSC9 (2017). He is also currently the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC) representative of the IRCC IHO-EU Network Working Group. Over the years he has been a Swedish representative in numerous hydrographic commission meetings; for Baltic, Nordic and North Sea Hydrographic Commissions. Between 2008 and 2013, he also participated in the Chart Standardization & Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG), being one of whom initiated change in the working group's role and to change its current name to Nautical Chart WG (NCWG).



Mr. Wallhagen also initiated the EU-funded FAMOS-project <http://www.famosproject.eu/>, a project where most HOs from MS surrounding the Baltic Sea have cooperated since 2014. Within the project, hydrographic surveys of nearly 50 000 km² of waters shallower than 200 m have been performed, production systems in several HOs have been improved and a common chart datum for the Baltic Sea is being implemented. In addition, the FAMOS-project has tested innovative technologies such as vertical positioning using GNSS as well as high-density bathymetry (S-102) in order to optimise under keel clearance. Collaboration within FAMOS has other than HOs also involved partnerships with academia, with other national authorities and also the industry.

International cooperation is very important for Mr. Wallhagen, as learning from the differing perspectives of one another is a fundamental part of furthering progress. This is why the IHO is so vital for the hydrographic branch. When technology for surveying and hydrographic data is undergoing rapid advancement while the shipping industry and society as a whole relies upon standards, the IHO is key in facilitating standards and products and disseminating marine knowledge to ensure that shipping is both safe and efficient. IHO can also provide wider use of hydrographic data. Mr. Wallhagen is in the position as the new HSSC vice-chair dedicated to take an active part in managing existing standards and to develop the new S-100 set of standards and products.

Background

What might be missing in academic merits Mr. Wallhagen has acquired knowledge through his 28 years of experience in service at the Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA). Mr. Wallhagen is Head of Production in the Swedish Hydrographic Office (SHO) a role that also includes engagements in many international forums. As Head of Production, with around 90 employees, Mr. Wallhagen has proven both his leadership skills as well as social skills. He played a crucial role when SHO successfully implemented its new organization (2011), new chart production system (2016) as well as a new management system (2018/2019). Among his many strengths, I also would like to mention his ability to focus and re-focus on relevant issues and eagerness to deliver results, but also his ability to listen to and address arguments and his genuine curiosity about other people's views on various issues. These are abilities that both create trust, a good working climate within any group he is involved in and at the same time contribute to the group being able to solve its tasks and deliver results within give deadlines.

Since 2011 he has had the role of Head of Production at the Swedish HO (organized under the SMA). This has entailed responsibility for hydrographic surveying, source and bathymetry management, chart production and the production of end user products (ENC, paper charts, NtM, leisure craft charts, bathymetry products). Before his current role, he was manager for the chart production system and in the 1990's he was project leader for the digitalization project in which paper charts were digitized and stored in the very first chart database. He has also served one year aboard a survey vessel. In the 1990's, he was also very much involved in a pilot project where German and Swedish ferries at a very early stage tested the use of ECDIS and AIS-technology. This project was important as it made it possible to prove to the IMO that ENCs, ECDIS and also AIS combined with GNSS positioning could improve shipping safety. This experience of testing the application of new groundbreaking technology in the shipping industry was valuable. Such experience is especially pertinent now as the IHO stands before a new era of standards with the S-100 product specifications, to ensure their introduction to the industry and to offer them as part of the IMO e-navigation strategy platform.



Patrik Wiberg
Swedish Hydrographer