

**3rd IHO-HSSC Meeting
IHB Monaco, 8-10 November 2011**

Paper for Consideration by HSSC

Revision of IEC 61174

Submitted by:	IHB
Executive Summary:	This paper reports on the likely revision of IEC 61174 - <i>ECDIS – Operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results.</i>
Related Documents:	None
Related Projects:	None

Introduction / Background

The 3rd edition of IEC standard 61174 - *ECDIS – Operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results* was published in 2008. Subsequently, several IHO standards that are referenced in IEC 61174 have been the subject of changes, including a new edition 6.0 of S-52 - *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS* which was published in March 2010, and its Annex A - *IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS* for which Maintenance Document (MD) no. 7 was issued in October 2009. MD-08 is planned for publication in November 2011. Further, S-52 App. 1 - *Guidance on ENC Updating*, S-63 - *IHO Data Protection Scheme* and S-64 - *IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS*, also referenced in IEC 61174, as well as S-52 Annex A, are expected to be revised in 2012 subject to the approval of HSSC-3.

Analysis/Discussion

As well as considering the changes forecast to the IHO standards in 2012, recent concern expressed by the IMO and other ECDIS stakeholders indicates that a more general review of IEC 61174 may be warranted. As a result, the IHB has conveyed to IEC the IHO's support for a revision of IEC 61174 (Annex A). The response from the chair of the relevant IEC committee (Annex B) indicates that the possible revision of the standard is on the Agenda of the next IEC TC80 Plenary meeting in Melbourne, Australia on 28-29 October 2011 and that the revision process could then start in 2012.

Conclusion

A thorough review and revision of IEC 61174 is needed to take account of the changes to the relevant IHO standards that have already occurred and those that are forecast in 2012, as well as recent concern expressed by the IMO and other ECDIS stakeholders.

Action Required of HSSC

10. The HSSC is invited to:
 - a. Take **note** of this paper.

Annex A – IHB letter to the Chairman, IEC TC80 dated 19 September 2011

Annex B – Letter of response from the Chairman, IEC TC80 dated 19 September 2011

IHB letter to the Chairman, IEC TC80 dated 19 September 2011

Revision of IEC 61174 – Test Specifications for ECDIS

Chairman, IEC Technical Committee 80

by email: andy@drandynorris.co.uk

For Information:

Secretary IEC TC80

by email: kpfisher@btinternet.com

19 September 2011

Dear Sir,

This letter is to inform you that the IHO expects to make a number of significant revisions to various IHO standards that are referenced in IEC 61174. Subject to the endorsement of the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee at its next meeting in November 2011, this will occur during 2012.

As well as considering the changes forecast to the IHO standards in 2012, recent concern expressed by the IMO and other ECDIS stakeholders indicates that a more general review of IEC 61174 may be warranted. In particular, enhancements may be required so that the tests specified in 61174 assist, as much as possible, in ensuring that certified ECDIS equipment conforms not only to the specific requirements of the various standards but also to the broader intention of those standards. In this context, and noting the considerable additional experience that has been gained by all communities involved in ECDIS since the last revision of 61174, the IHO supports a review and revision in the near future.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert WARD

Director

Letter of response from the Chairman, IEC TC80 dated 19 September 2011



From: Dr Andy Norris Chairman Technical Committee 80

Tel: +44 (0) 1621 842107 E-mail:
andy@drandynorris.co.uk

**To: Captain Robert Ward Director,
International Hydrographic Bureau**

19 September 2011

Dear Captain Ward

Revision of IEC 61174 – Test Specifications for ECDIS

Thank you for your letter dated 19 September 2011 informing me about the imminent revisions to IHO Standards that will affect IEC 61174. IEC TC80 is committed to ensuring that its standards remain up-to-date and relevant, particularly taking into account feedback from all the stakeholders of its standards.

The possible revision of this standard is on the Agenda for discussion at the next IEC TC80 Plenary meeting, taking place at Melbourne, Australia, 28-29 October 2011. At this meeting the contents of your letter will be given full attention, as well as any written or verbal reports from TC80 national members familiar with the situation regarding ECDIS at the International Maritime Organization. It can be expected that the outcome of these deliberations will be a decision to commence the revision of IEC 61174 in 2012. The revision, including its international voting process, is likely to take about 18 months

On behalf of IEC TC80

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Andy Norris'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Andy Norris