

5TH MEETING OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Shanghai, China, 5-8 November 2013

Paper for Consideration by HSSC

Interface with IMO/HTW (formerly STW) on data quality issues

Submitted by:	IHB
Executive Summary:	This paper reports on action HSSC4/31 which invited the IHB to investigate how to interface with the IMO Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping (STW), now the Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW), for improving training on the quality aspects of the practical use of ENC's.
Related Documents:	Final minutes of HSSC 4 (section 5.6.3) STW 44/3 - <i>Report on the model course programme</i> STW 44/19 - <i>Report of the 44th Session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping to the Maritime Safety Committee</i> MSC 92/26/Add.3 - <i>Report of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee on its 92nd Session - Annexes 40 to 44</i> IHO CL 51/2013 dated 16 August - <i>Request for information on Hydrographic Office Publications explaining data quality</i>
Related Projects:	DQWG work plan.

Introduction / Background

1. When reviewing the status of training on the quality aspects of the practical use of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC), HSSC-4 invited the IHB to investigate how to interface with the IMO Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping (STW) (action HSSC4/31). This paper reports on the outcome of these investigations.
2. The STW was one of the nine Sub-Committees which assisted the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), the highest technical body of the IMO, and the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), the body which consider issues related to the prevention and control of pollution from ships. STW was responsible for developing the standards of competence for seafarers, in accordance with the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW). It assisted with uniform interpretation of the STCW and developed other guidance for the Convention. For maritime training institutes worldwide, STW developed and maintained a series of model courses which provide suggested syllabi, course timetables and learning objectives. STW also considered the promotion and implementation of the IMO's human element strategy.
3. At its 92nd session (June 2013), the MSC agreed to a restructuring of IMO's Sub-Committees, in order to deal more effectively with the technical and operational issues covered by IMO regulations. The number of Sub-Committees was reduced from 9 to 7. The STW became the "Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping" (HTW) with similar terms of reference. The new terms of reference of the HTW are provided in Annex A.
4. HTW meets annually like its predecessor. Its agenda is set by the MSC in accordance with the high level action plan of the IMO and the priorities of the current biennium. The proposed outputs for the 2014-2015 biennium under the coordination of the HTW are listed in Annex B, subject to the approval of the 28th session of the IMO Assembly (25 November - 4 December 2013).

Analysis / Discussion

5. The review of the list of planned outputs for the HTW shows that the potential interface with the IHO on training issue is through the review of Model Courses. The following Model Courses are relevant to the quality aspects of the practical use of charts:

- 1.27 - Operational Use of Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS);
- 7.03 - Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch;
- 7.06 - Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch on a Fishing Vessel.

6. The current situation of the IMO Model Courses is summarized in Table 1.

*Table 1
Status of IMO Model Courses related to the practical use of nautical charts*

No	Title	Current Edition	Comments	Source
1.27	Operational Use of Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS)	2012	Reviewed by DQWG	HSSC4-05.6C
7.03	Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch	1999	New edition being prepared for publication	STW 44/19
7.06	Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch on a Fishing Vessel	2008		STW 44/3

7. Following the revision of the IMO Model Course for Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch by STW during its 43rd session (May 2013), there is no foreseeable opportunity to contribute to the review of the IMO Model Courses related to the practical use of nautical charts.

8. The review of the revised Model Course for Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch validated by STW leads to a similar conclusion to that reached by the IHO Data Quality Working Group (DQWG) on the Model Course for the Operational Use of ECDIS: it is a high level framework document which covers the appropriate requirement “to become familiar with a chart, its huge amount of information, use and limitations”. Chart quality issues seem to be more relevant at the level of the recommended teaching aids and references than at the level of the Model Course itself.

Conclusion

9. The potential interface with the HTW on the quality aspects of the practical use of charts is limited to the revision of IMO Model Courses dealing with navigational issues. There is no plan to review the current editions in the upcoming biennium (2014-2015).

10. The quality aspects of the practical use of charts are more relevant at the level of the recommended teaching aids and references than at the level of the Model Course itself.

Recommendation

11. The above analysis leads to a recommendation that the review of the publications issued by Hydrographic Offices (HO) explaining data quality that is being undertaken by the DQWG includes consideration of their adequacy as teaching aids and references for the three IMO Model Courses dealing with navigational issues.

12. It is also recommended that the DQWG considers, in liaison with training institutions, the ways and means to promote the effective use of the relevant publications issued by HOs.

Action required of HSSC

13. The HSSC is invited to:
 - a. **note** this report;
 - b. **adopt** the recommendation in sections 11 and 12; and
 - c. **take** any other **action** as appropriate.

Annex A

Terms of Reference

IMO Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW)

(as approved by MSC 92)

1. Under the direct instructions of the Maritime Safety Committee and as may be requested by the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW) will consider technical and operational matters related to the following subjects, including the development of any necessary amendments to relevant conventions and other mandatory and non-mandatory instruments, as well as the preparation of new mandatory and non-mandatory instruments, guidelines and recommendations, taking into account the role of such measures in the protection of the marine environment, for consideration by the Committees, as appropriate:

- .1 minimum international standards for training and certification of seafarers;
- .2 principles of safe watchkeeping;
- .3 minimum international standards for training and certification of fishing vessel personnel;
- .4 maritime safety, security and environmental protection culture in all ship operations;
- .5 review of the principles of safe manning of ships and training issues related to the human element taking into account technological, organizational and social developments;
- .6 promotion of awareness of lessons learnt from the analysis of accident and incident reports and information;
- .7 review, updating and revision of IMO model courses;
- .8 promotion and implementation of the Organization's human element strategy, including the chain(s) of responsibility in maritime safety, security and environmental protection;
- .9 coordination with relevant United Nations bodies, IGOs and NGOs on international standards related to the training and certification of seafarers; and
- .10 revision/development of relevant guidelines relating to training of seafarers issues, such as maritime safety, security and protection of the marine environment.

2. The conventions and other mandatory instruments (as may be amended from time to time) referred to above include, but are not limited to:

- .1 1978 STCW¹ Convention, including STCW Code;
- .2 1995 STCW-F² Convention;
- .3 1974 SOLAS Convention and the 1978 and 1988 Protocols relating thereto, and associated Codes, as appropriate;
- .4 MARPOL³ annexes, as appropriate;
- .5 2012 Cape Town Agreement, as appropriate;
- .6 1966 Load Lines Convention and the 1988 Protocol relating thereto; and
- .7 1969 Tonnage Measurement Convention.

3. The non-mandatory instruments referred to in paragraph 1, which the Sub-Committee may be called upon to review, include, but are not limited to:

¹ STCW: International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers.

² STCW-F: International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel.

³ MARPOL: International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

- .1 Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU Code);
and
 - .2 Principles of safe manning.
4. Any other relevant technical and operational issues referred to it by the Committees or other technical bodies of the Organization.

Annex B

Proposed output for the 2014-2015 biennium under the coordination of the HTW

(as adopted by MSC 92)

Number	Description <i>High Level Action</i> Planned Output
1.1.2	<i>Cooperate with the United Nations and other international bodies on matters of mutual interest</i>
1.1.2.18	Liaison statements to/from ILO ⁴ : seafarers' issues
5.2.1	<i>Keep under review the technical and operational safety aspects of all types of ships, including fishing vessels</i>
5.2.1.22	Promotion of the implementation of the 1995 STCW-F Convention
5.2.2	<i>Development and review of training and watchkeeping standards and operational procedures for maritime personnel</i>
5.2.2.1	Development of guidance for the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments
5.2.2.3	Validated model training courses
5.2.2.4	Reports on unlawful practices associated with certificates of competency
5.2.2.9	Development of guidance for personnel involved with tug-barge operations

⁴ ILO: International Labour Organization.