



IHO – The S-121 Maritime Limits and Boundaries Standard Project Team

The S-121 Maritime Limits and Boundaries Standard

A Status Report

Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC 9)
November 6-10th, Ottawa, Canada



Point of Origin

Developed as part of a request from the UN Division for Oceans and Law of the Sea (DOALOS) to enable member States to meet their obligation to depositing their maritime limits and boundaries.



Mandate

Support the management and exchange of a State's Maritime Sovereignty, Sovereign rights extents and associated juridical zones as described under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

REQUIRED



Terms of Reference

S-121 MLBs Project team was tasked to:

1. Define a proposed **data model**;
2. Create an S-100 conformant product specification for MLBs to support coastal States' **depository obligations** in accordance with the Convention;
3. Determine if S-100 **needs to be extended** to facilitate the implementation of the deposit obligation of coastal States' under the Convention.





The S-121 MLBs Standard Structure

Based on two levels which follows the basic premise of ISO TC211 of the separation of the "carrier from the content".

**Data
Model**



***Administer, manage
and maintain MLBs***

**Exchange
formats**



***Distribute and make
MLBs accessible***



Participation

50 Members representing:

- 13 Member States
 - 9 active
- 6 International Body Members, Liaison and Bodies of Interest
 - UN-DOALOS, ABLOS, IHB
 - ISO TC211, INSPIRE
 - UN-GGIM
- 6 Observing Industry Members



Development Status

In the last year 10 months the S121PT:

- Consolidated and agreed on the core features of the model (Dec. 2016).
- Refined the model following a comprehensive review (May 2017).
- Discussed core feature attributes and the integration of the ISO19152 standard describing the Party, Roles, Rights, Restrictions, Responsibilities associated with Maritime Limits and Boundaries. (Sept. 2017).
- Two member States have shown their interest in using the standard to deposit their limits in the near term. (Sept. 2017).
- Presented and published the new communication strategy (Sept. 2017).

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Currently

- Have:
 - Functional Conceptual and Implementation model available online (HTML and EA files)
 - Informative documentation (Cover page, Draft Overview)
 - Draft Product Specification compliant with S-100 template
 - Draft Encoding document
 - Additional information (papers, info letter and presentations)
 - Implementation Guidelines for ArcGIS and QGIS (this week)
 - Hypothetic and real life implementation example (this week)



Next Priorities

- Support the members in their implementation efforts (Nov. 2017).
- Provide and update guidance document as needed. (Nov. 2017).
- Refining the deposit exchange format. (Dec. 2017).
- Ready a draft a pilot project proposal with the OGC a strategy to actively involve 3rd party software vendors and suppliers. (Dec. 2017).
- Revise documentation (Dec. 2017).



Next Meeting Objectives

United Nation Headquarters, New York, Dec. 4-8th 2017

- Receive and discuss the member implementation
- Fine tune the model with all stakeholders
- Begin discussions on symbology for all use cases.
- Consider metadata and exchange set creation
- Reach an agreement on the OGC pilot strategy



Expectations

- It is hoped that shortly after the next meeting in December that the standard will reach a significant milestone allowing it to enter a pilot stage. This will be in conjunction with the OGC and will involve participation by industry participants as well as member States in a test bed project.
- It is expected that shortly after the meeting in December, that the S121PT will be able to produce further recommendations and submissions to the S100WG.



Challenges



INTEGRATION

- ISO and S-100 have nomenclature differences.
- S-100 Dictionary not supporting multiple definitions for a single entry, forcing the creation of unwanted complex attribute and object names.



SCOPE

- MLBs are the foundation delimiting the marine juridical domain. Sensible issue dear to the Member States.
- The integration of ISO 19152 makes the standard expendable to other usages such internal management, marine cadaster, fisheries.



ADMINISTRATION

- First S-100 standard organising the information objects to support administration and legal description.
- Separates the carrier (exchange format) from the content (administered data).



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Questions:
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a smooth sea
never made a
skilled sailor

S121PT