



Regional Hydrographic Commission Report
To IRCC9

**United States of America – Canada
Hydrographic Commission
(USCHC)**

US - Canada Hydrographic Commission (USCHC)

Co-Chair: Rear Admiral Shepard Smith (*USA*)

Co-Chair: Mr Denis Hains (*Canada*)

Members: Canada, United States of America

Associate Members: n/a

Observers: International Hydrographic Organization

Meeting and Agenda Items since IRCC8

- 40th USCHC took place in Galveston, Texas in 20 March 2017 in conjunction with the US Hydrographic Conference
- Agenda Items included:
 - Selection of USCHC representative to the IHO Council and preparations for the 1st Session of the IHO Assembly
 - Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI).
 - Crowd-sourced bathymetry (CSB).
 - Remote sensing (e.g. LiDAR) and satellite-derived bathymetry (SDB).
 - National Charting Programs and other collaborative opportunities



Key Achievements of the USCHC for IRCC9

- USCHC Member States and France submitted a proposal to the 1st Session of the IHO Assembly entitled, *Development of an IHO Satellite-Derived Bathymetry Assessment and Charting Programme for as yet Uncharted or Poorly Charted Areas*.
- USCHC has endorsed the UN-GGIM Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management.
- Commission Member States signed new USCHC Statutes at the 1st Session of the IHO Assembly.



Difficulties encountered and challenges yet to be addressed

- Future of the paper chart.
- Implementation of S-100.
- Increasing need for improved data and navigational products e.g. e-navigation, marine services portfolios (MSPs).
- Potential of Crowd-sourced bathymetry (CSB) and questions of engagement (with “The Crowd”) and integration into products.
- Potential of remote sensing (e.g. LiDAR) and satellite-derived bathymetry
- Full and integrated implementation of MSDI.
- CATZOC attribution.
- USCHC support for the INT charting programme.
- Timely response to IHO/IRCC reporting requirements and action items.

Actions required of IRCC9

-IRCC9 is invited to note this report.

Thank you.



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