

Paper for consideration by SNPWG16

Results of the Product Specification Survey (SNPWG Questionnaire)

Submitted by:	SNPWG Chair group
Executive Summary:	Provision of the results of the SNPWG ProdSpec survey
Related Documents:	http://www.fuerstenberg-dhg.de/index.php?id=428 (for online replies)
Related Projects:	SNPWG future product specifications; S100

Introduction / Background

The HSSC4 has assigned a work plan to SNPWG which focuses on reviewing the developed SNPWG Feature Concept Dictionary actually stored at the SNPWG wiki. Furthermore, the SNPWG was asked to provide an estimate quantity of potential product specifications, the order of their production and a schedule of their production in relation to the S100 and S101 development.

Analysis/Discussion

Bearing the HSSC assignment in mind, the SNPWG discussed the best way on how to proceed with the product specification development. During the 15th SNPWG meeting the group discussed focusing on information rather than focusing on existing nautical publications.

Finally, the group developed a questionnaire which concentrates on the following main semantic groups:

- Hydrography (Features under the high water level which are not charted),
- Topography (Geographic features above the high water level, i.e. mountain ranges, plain, valley),
- Social/Political (Non-traffic regulations, geopolitical items),
- Traffic Management (Anything to do with routeing, berthing, anchorage, traffic control, traffic regulations),
- Marine services (Service to facilitate the business of shipping like pilotage, shore services, bunkering, etc.),
- Radio Signals (All radio services),
- Harbour infrastructure (Mooring, berthing facilities, shore line constructions),
- Navigational marks (Structures used as aids to navigation),
- Environment (Climate, weather, tide, tidal stream or other causes of water level variation),
- Reference (lookup information, help page, conversion table, etc.).

The questionnaire was carried out from 1 February to 30 April. The main specified constraint was that the questionnaire should have been conducted by experienced mariners. Thus, the SNPWG approached training facilities which are specialised in EDCIS trainings from mariners and asked them for cooperation.

The following training institutes/academies participated:

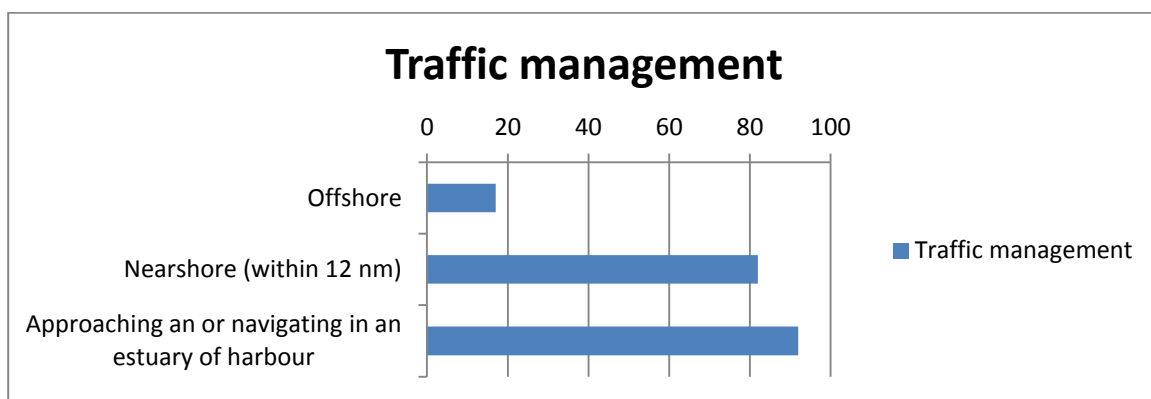
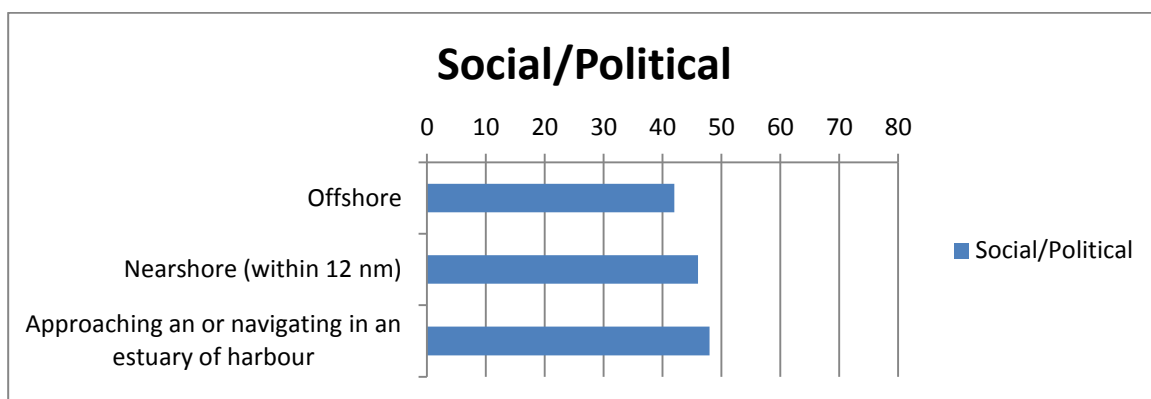
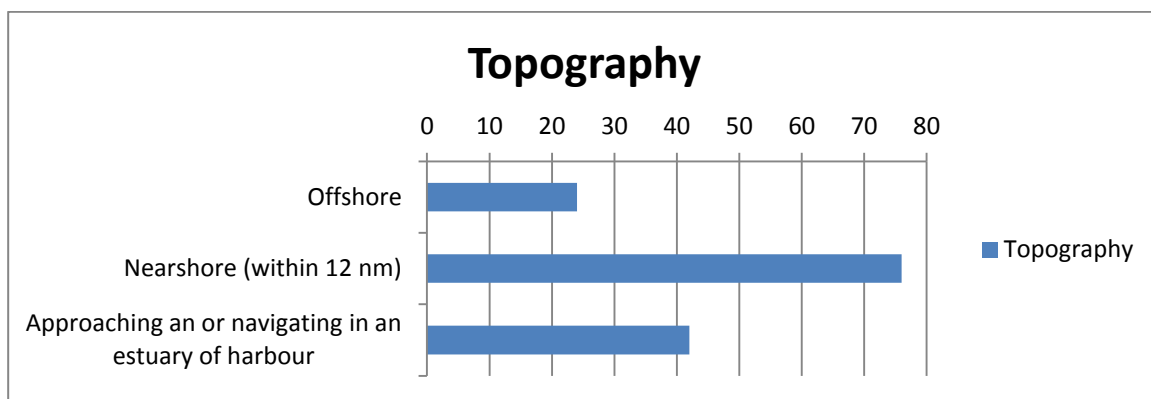
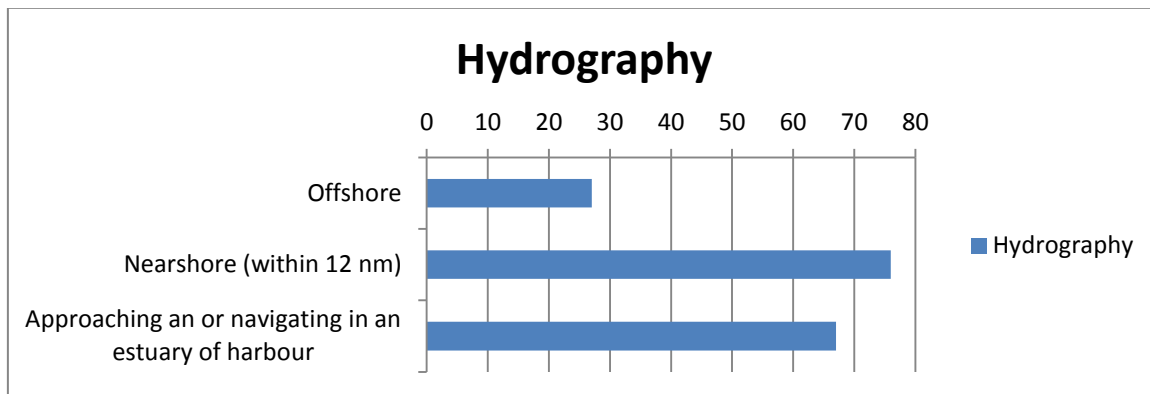
- AIDA Cruises Academy, Rostock (Germany),
- Interschalt, Hamburg (Germany),
- ECDIS Ltd., Fareham (UK),
- Samtra, Simons Town (South Africa),
- Bridge Simulation Centre, Espoo (Finland),
- WINGS, Rostock (Germany),
- Marstal Navigationskole (Denmark).

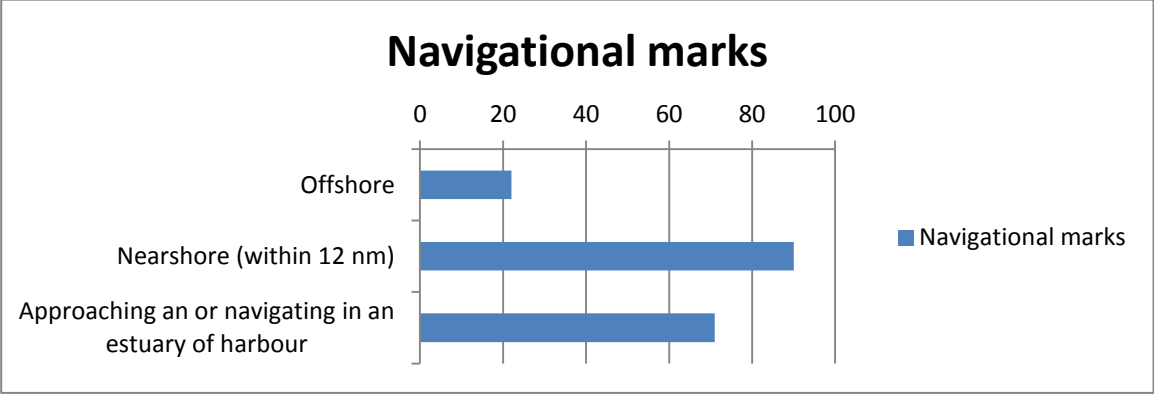
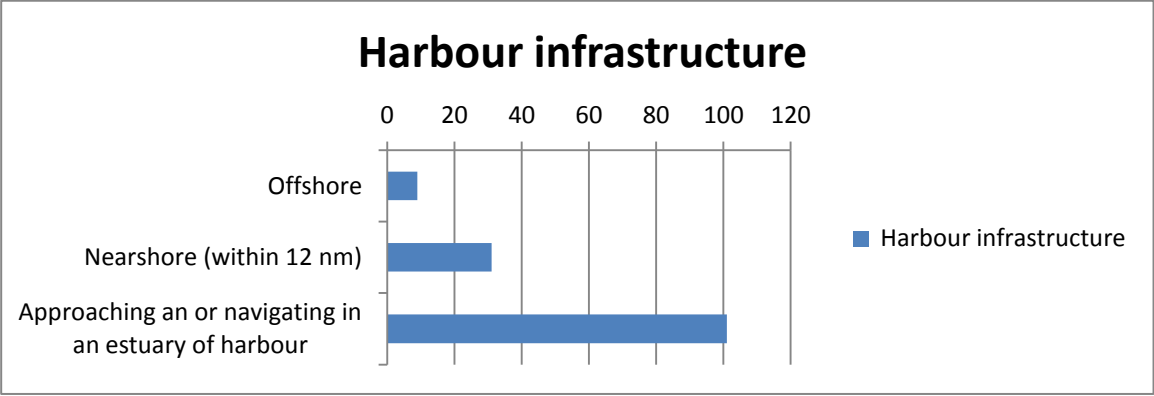
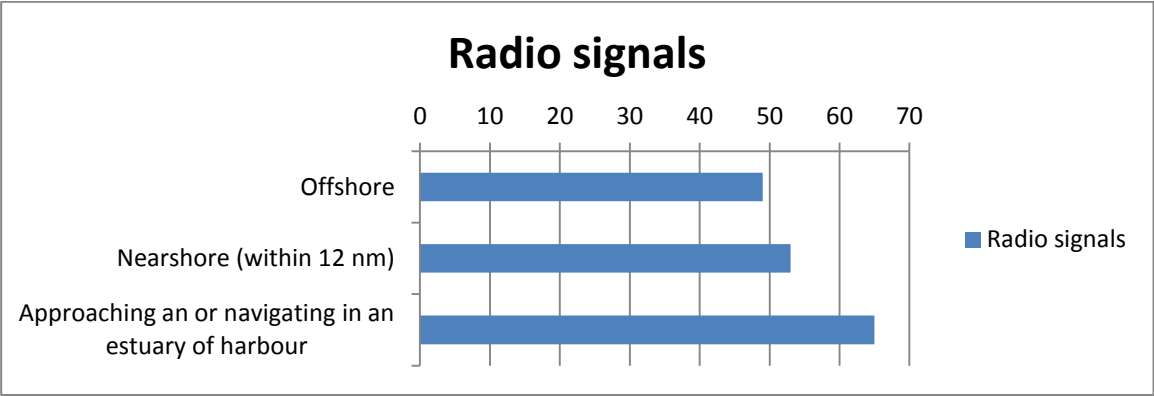
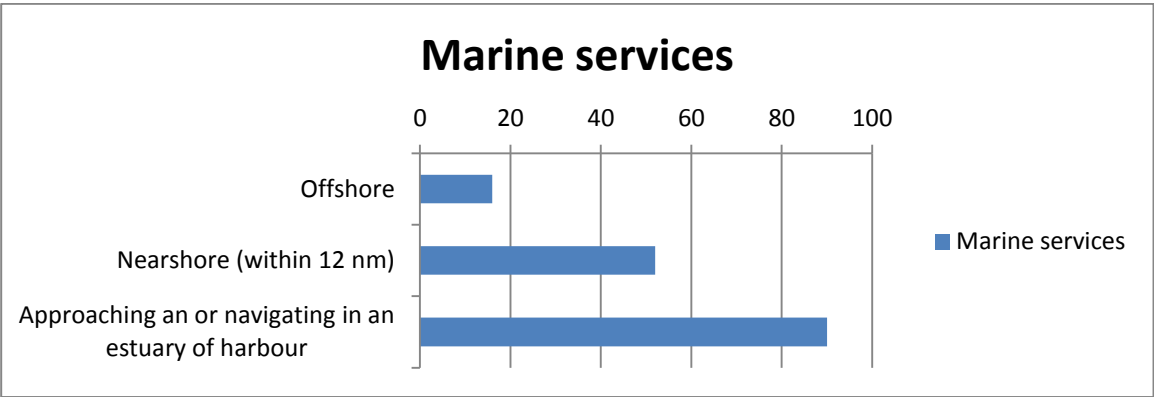
Additionally, Japan kindly did the questionnaire through their communication channels and the U.S. NOAA has used their Twitter service contact to approach mariners.

The online version of the questionnaire was accessed about 600 times. That includes all visits of the site regardless of whether the form was filled in or not.

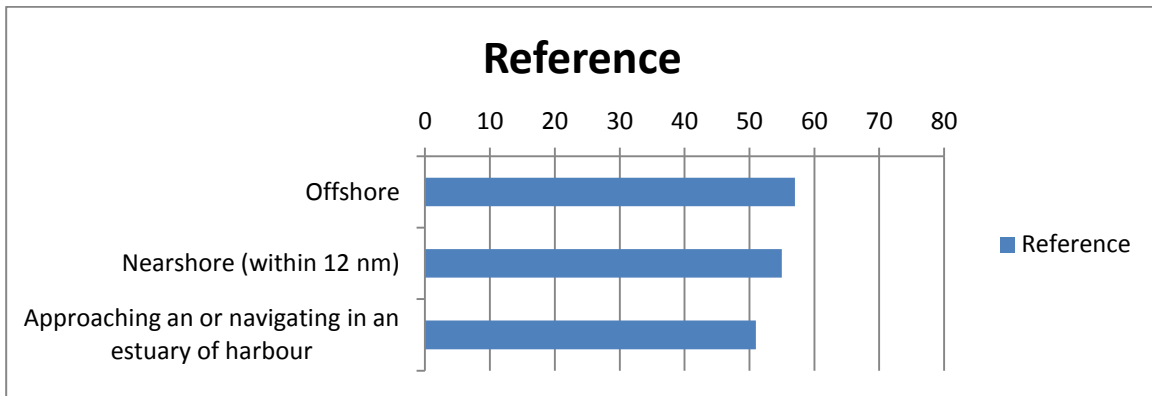
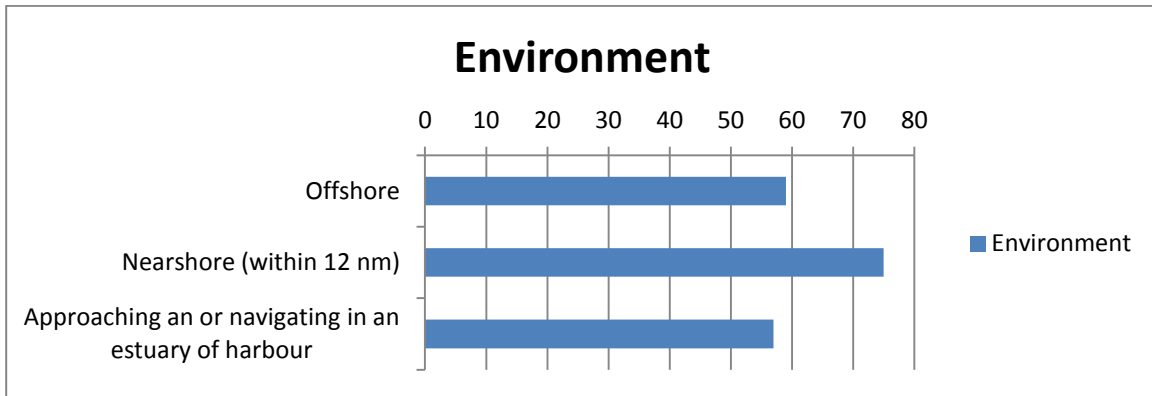
The questionnaire has got a total of 137 (603 online) respondents.

The mariners were asked how important the information for which navigational purpose would be. The values indicating the quantity of responses for each navigational purpose:

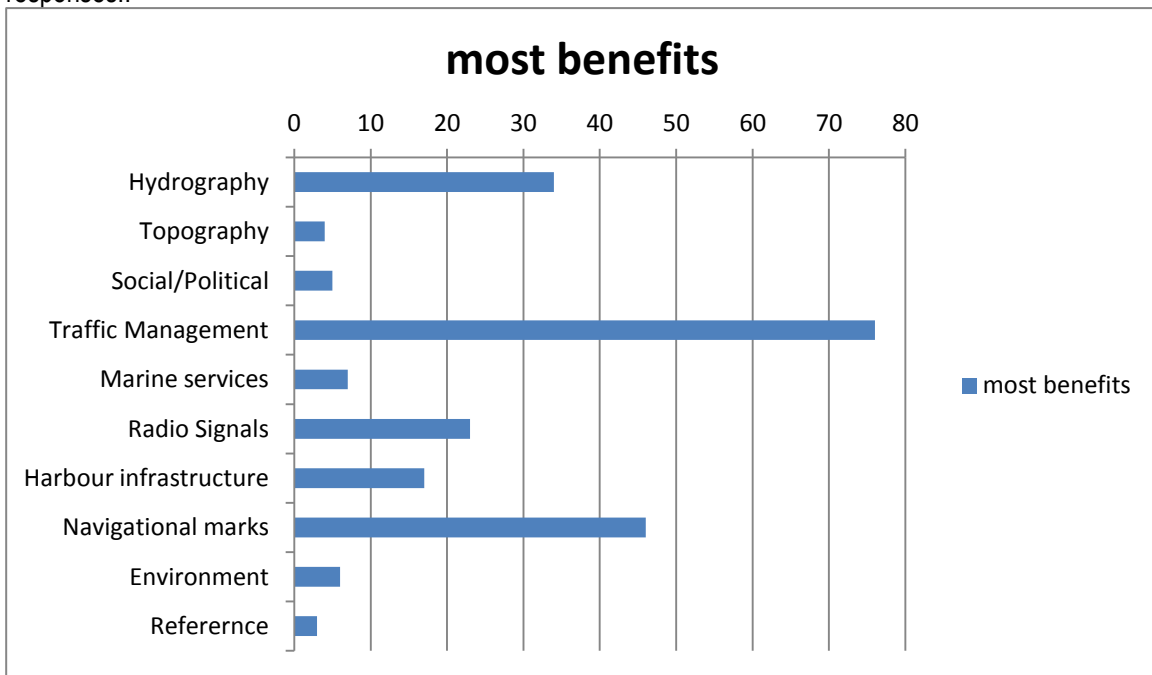




Note: FOR REASONS OF ECONOMY, THE DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING



The query on what information would generate immediate benefits results. The values indicating the quantity of responses.:



The participating institutes/academies were able to get in contact with and to ask the participants why they selected the one or the other information.

An interesting aspect was that they refer to existing digital solutions and thus, they didn't see the necessity to integrate the information into the ECDIS systems which is currently available digitally.

Furthermore, participants like to see the information provided on an additional screen but with the ENC as background. They desire to not be forced to switch between different chart presentations.

Conclusions

Carrying out the questionnaire was the most effective way to access our main customers, the mariners. The result provides a good indication of the desired nautical publication information to be added to ECDIS systems. The questionnaire can be considered as being successful for the intended purpose.

Recommendations

SNPWG16 is invited to discuss the results of the questionnaire. The order of the potential product specifications and their respective content should be determinate.

Justification and Impacts

NIL

Action required of SNPWG16

The SNPWG16 is invited to:

- a. note this paper.
- b. Discuss the next steps as recommended.