

Paper for consideration by SNPWG16

Overview of the work status

Submitted by:	SNPWG Chair group
Executive Summary:	Introduction of the current work status
Related Documents:	http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/TOR/SNPWG_TOR.pdf http://www.fuerstenberg-dhg.de/mediawiki/index.php/Main_Page
Related Projects:	SNPWG future product specifications; S100

Introduction / Background

This WG is a subsidiary of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC). Its work is subject to HSSC approval.

Analysis/Discussion

Based on the XVth IH Conference decision, the ToR of the SNPWG was changed from focussing on paper products to the new objective: “develop guidelines for the preparation of Sailing Directions in digital format, compatible with ECDIS”. The WG should keep close liaison with CHRIS (Decision No39).“

The first SNPWG meeting based on the new ToR and objective was held in Monaco in 1999.

Since then, the group has developed a scope of nautical publication content. Based on that scope, a data model based on S57 was started to be developed.

Meantime, the TSMAD started to develop a new IHO Universal Hydrographic Data Model named S-100. Introduced early 2010, S100 has had significant impacts on the SNPWG data model. It now allows the option to extend the set of features by information objects and complex attributes. These new types offer greater flexibility of the model.

The IHO introduced a registry based on S-100 in 2010. Although the SNPWG data model is at a very stable status, due to missing functionalities, the SNPWG objects and attributes are not sufficiently populated in the IHO Registry. Instead, the SNPWG has stored their relevant objects and attributes on the SNPWG wiki.

Many tests were carried out to check whether the SNPWG data model would be useful for the intended purpose. Relevant test data sets were developed and provided by WG member states. If considered necessary, the mappings of those test data sets evoked amendments of the SNPWG data model.

Several trials to develop S-100 based product specifications were undertaken. The most advanced product specification is for Marine Protected Areas. Different components of product specifications are under development by other IHO working groups and the progress of SNPWG product specifications depends heavily on the progress of these working groups. They are responsible for certain components of a Product Specification such as Portrayal and Data quality. SNPWG is working very closely with them.

Most recently, the SNPWG initiated a questionnaire to evaluate the user's request of potential product specifications and to order their development. The outcome of the questionnaire has to be discussed and the next steps have to be considered.

Conclusions

SNPWG work will have a significant impact on the future presentation of nautical publication content to the mariner. The idea behind SNPWG is that most information would be accessible by ECDIS or systems closely interacting with ECDIS.

Recommendations

SNPWG16 is invited to continue the work and to develop a work plan on how and when the nautical publications content would be covered in S100 conformant product specifications.

Justification and Impacts

Reflecting SNPWG work, HO's might slightly change the provision of current nautical information in both detail and presentation.

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

Action required of SNPWG16

The SNPWG16 is invited to:

- a. note this paper.