IHO Standardization of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG)

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Standardization of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG) Meeting
12 - 16 February 2007– BHS, Rostock

Chairman: Mr. Johannes Melles (BSH)
Deputy-Chairman: Mr. David Acland (UKHO)
Secretary: Mr. John Nyberg (NOAA)

Annex A: Agenda
Annex B: List of Attendees
Annex C: SNPWG Work Plan

1   Opening and Administrative Arrangements –

1.1   Introduction and welcome

Dr. Ehlers welcomed the group and emphasized the importance of changing the structure, contents and display of nautical publications while making the transition from printed to digital formats, including no unnecessary redundant information between the chart and nautical pubs. He also pointed out the importance of including industry in the SNPWG's work.

2   Approval of Agenda – Administrative arrangements

The chairman said that the meeting will start at 9:00 each day and will end around 17:00. He discussed the very full agenda and said that the group would work through Friday afternoon.

David Acland proposed that we move item 13 to item 11 and that we progress through the agenda to item 12 (including 13) by Tuesday afternoon.

The agenda was approved.

3   Matters Arising

The chairman chose to review the minutes from the last meeting in order to discuss action items.

Action items:
5-1: Group Action: Vessel types - Group members should review the list and make suggestions for additions.
  Jens has completed the action under CATVSL, to be discussed under item 12.

5- 2   Action TSMAD (Johannes Melles, Peter Parslow): M_UNIT – doesn't allow for defining units of weight. Make proposal to TSMAD to add a means for us to report tonnage (W_UNITS).
  The WG has its own register now, so this is no longer an action item.

5- 3   Group Action: Category of Cargo - Group members should add general terms to the cargo list. Items, including definitions, must be sent to Jens Schroder-Furstenberg for addition to the list before the next meetings.
  Action has been taken, to be reviewed under item 12.

5- 4   Action (Skip Stembel): Registration Data - Mr. Stembel will provide the IMO definitions to Mr. Schroder-Furstenberg.
  The IMO definition was provided by Mr. Stembel.

5- 5   Group Action: Category of Authorities - The group must review and provide missing authorities, with definitions, to Mr. Schroder-Furstenberg. Mr. Acland will provide definition for existing values.
  Action was completed.

5- 6   Action (Steve Offenback): - Analyze the NGA World Port Index to determine what has been left out of the scope document.
  Completed – no action necessary to include the World Port Index.

5- 7   Action (Alejandro Herrero): - Mr. Herrero will look for an instance where cockroach fumigation is mandatory.
  Completed – this is something that is only mandatory in Spain.

5- 8   Action (Christian Jego): - Mr. Jego will research international dialing standards and report to Mr. Schroder-Furstenberg.
  Mr. Jego researched this topic but said that it is very complicated because there are several recommendations. He will prepare a presentation for SNPWG 8. Mr. Schroder-Furstenberg have a copy of the documents.

5- 9   Action TSMAD (Johannes Melles, Peter Parslow): - Ask TSMAD to consider allowing an object to accept the same attribute multiple times.
  Mr. Melles and Mr. Parslow are under the impression that there is more discussion needed in TSMAD and they can not give us advice yet.

5- 10   Action TSMAD (Johannes Melles, Peter Parslow): - The definition of (COMCHA) has to be revisited in TSMAD.
  This was not brought up in TSMAD

5-11   Action TSMAD (Johannes Melles, Peter Parslow): - Discuss the delimiter between values (when there are more than one, as in a string of phone numbers) in an attribute with TSMAD.
    This was discussed at TSMAD but no decision was made.

5-12   Action: - The sub-working groups should complete their work by December 31. The exchange of work between the SubWGs is an ongoing task. The proposal to TSMAD should be made after the next SNPWG-meeting.
    The SubWGs did exchange some data, but work still needs to be done in the SubWGs. We will revisit this at the end of the meeting.

5-13   Action CHRIS (Johannes Melles): - Mr. Melles will prepare a work plan for submission to Robert Ward as an update to the IHO Work Program for the period of 2008 – 2012.
    This action was completed.

Items 5-9 through 5-11 will be left open for the next TSMAD meeting in the UK and SNPWG will follow-up on them.

4   National Reports

Denmark   -   Denmark continues an extensive effort to modernize and re-rewrite their Greenland publications and charts.

Germany   -   Restructuring NPs is an ongoing process, 4 volumes are left to be completed. They should be done in 2008/09. The first sailing directions to include CD-ROMs are currently in production, and the book covers have been removed, returning the publications to folders.

BSH is still working on installing HPD, one database solution for all products. ECDIS data is being produced on a stable status and should produce the first paper chart in the next month.

Spain   -   Producing a number of nautical publications with CD rom containing .pdf versions of their pubs. They produce a new edition of their list of lights and tide tables each year.

UKHO   -   RAdm Ian Moncrieff took the post of UK National Hydrographer in Dec 06.

The UKHO is now co-producing/dual-badging Sailing Directions with the Australian Hydrograaphic Office and is discussing a similar arrangement with Japan. Another HO has also indicated it is interested in co-production arrangements.

Admiralty Digital Products has been launched with TotalTide, Digital List of Lights and Digital Radio Signals Vol 6 available on a CD-ROM.

The new Admiralty Digital Catalogue was launched on the web last week.

France   -   France is now offering some publications in .pdf for free on their website, www.shom.fr. Notice to Mariners are available on CD rom, including the French (Reglementary Archives) NTMs from the previous year and this year, mandatory for all French ships.

USA (NOAA) - Skip Stembel retired and the Coast Pilot Branch Chief position is currently vacant. NOAA is continuing its effort to modernize their production system for nautical publications. They have made substantial progress on their new system, successfully cycling their data from a database into a desktop publishing system and back into the database.

USA (NGA) - NGA is updating their publications through a binary patch, available on the internet or email. Their maritime division is still in the process of a recap to their Navigation Safety System, moving from UNIX to a Windows based environment. Once complete, they will begin moving forward with the incorporation of their nautical publication information into their Digital Nautical Charts (DNC).

Argentina - The Servicio de Hidrografia Naval produces Electronic Nautical Charts for the Rio del Plata and some areas of the Argentine Atlantic Coast. Nautical Publications are now in paper format, but Argentina is working toward providing them in digital format. Argentina would like to include all of their data in a unique database so the information could be better managed.

Netherlands - The NLHO is, in accordance with the recommendations of the XVIth Hydrographic Conference (2002: section 7 "Digital Nautical Publications") preparing the first release of the digital sailing directions "Netherlands Coast Pilot" (HP1).

The first release is based upon the IHO specifications for NP2: digital publication based upon existing paper publications. Although a lot of the content is consistent with the equivalent paper publications the data structuring, maintenance, presentation and user interface is totally different. There is a web based Content Management System (SQL-server) with export facilities for XML/Access data bases and finally compilation of the CD-ROM/DVD with Flash Script and Flash Design for use on board in a desk top environment.

Estonia - Estonian Maritime Administration is publishing NtM and SD in traditional paper format. NtM is also available on the webpage in pdf format. List of lights is produced according to IHO standard M-12 from a database. Estonia is working towards using Source Messages Database for producing NtM digitally direct from database.

Venezuela - The Hydrographic Service (HS) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela keeps the periodic edition (in accordance with user necessities) of different nautical publications employed for navigators into Venezuelan waters, such as: sailing directions, list of lights, nautical calendars and charts catalogue, among others. Also, HS maintain the edition and reproduction of Venezuelan paper charts and electronic nautical charts (ENCs). In the present time, the information contends into Venezuelan nautical publications is been processing, to load and to be available at the website, www.dhn.mil.ve.

5. **DigiPilot – Presentation by Denis van der Heul (NLHO)** - Mr. Heul gave a presentation on DigiPilot, an automated/interactive planning and navigaiton system (to run on a separate system in parallel to the ECDIS). He demonstrated the system's capability to display information including sailing directions, routes, radar, radio, harbor images, waypoints and more. He also demonstrated how it is maintained. The product should be finished by the end of this year.

6. **Active Data – Presentation from Simon Salter (CherSoft)** - Mr. Salter discussed raw data, security, updates, and presentation of data and how they all work together. Active data

has these four concepts working together. AD does not set HOs up in competition with manufacturers of digital marine software, and it establishes an effective route to customers for data from HOs. Active Data is CherSoft's term for taking HO data in its raw form and making it usable for the user.

7. **Report - Americas SNPWG-SubWG (Nyberg)** – The Americas group completed the topography and hydrography sections but had difficulty with the traffic management portion of their work. There is a little uncertainty regarding their approach as they decided to go for a complete incorporation of topographic features for navigation. The list, as it stood, seemed to go part of the way with the topic but did not complete it. The group decided to take a look at the scope document after the reports.

The group discussed the new scope proposal by the ASWG. It was agreed that there needed to be discussion on the definitions and that some of the proposed attributes should be moved under different objects.

8. Report - Western European SNPWG-SubWG (Acland) – The WESWG has been working to support the NESWG and has been working to put together the NESWG, WESWG and ASWG data into one document. They have been looking at RG data, string groups, and further work with TSMAD.

9. Report - Northern European SNPWG-SubWG (Schröder-Furstenberg) – The group met twice, first discussing the work done by the WESWG. They implemented a process for tracking changes, and they found some problems with long range data, where information affects an area of overlap.

10. **Review of the results of SNPWG 6 (Monaco)**

10.1 Use of RGDATA – David Acland presented the WESWG's proposal for mandatory reporting. It should be set up so that when a ship passes a point or line, they are informed that they need to report on a specific subject. **It was decided that if reporting is part of a nautical publication, we must include it.** Mr. Salter said that there is not an easy fit for RGDATA, any way will be difficult.
Which object should it be related to?
Should an information object be used?

10.2 Questions, comments, proposals - None.

11. *General Issues*

11.1 Use of string attributes – The SNPWG is finding that they are going to have to use complex text. Where we have text, should we add tags? It was decided that we should use string attributes for regulations and that other text that must be fully explained, but we should use the other attributes whenever possible. **String attributes should be used on a case by case basis and the other attributes should be used whenever possible.**

11.2 List attributes versus repeating attributes – The group had a lengthy conversation and decided to use repeating objects when two or more attributes are dependent on one object. **In the cases like "service hours" where there is a list of many attributes that impact different variables (times for various services may be different) the SNPWG decided not to use list attributes anymore.**

11.3 Use of information objects – It was thought that we would have many objects without geographic extents. However, it has been found that we can use geo objects in most cases. Which direction should we lean? **The SNPWG decided that we would use geo-objects whenever possible.**

12.   Discussion and review of the results of the SubWGs – The discussion for the review of the results of the SubWGs were started with the ASWG and the NESWG explaining changes to their respective scope documents. With both groups, there was some discussion on the scope changes, but the SNPWG decided that more dialogue was required, to be completed in the group results section.

12.1 Preparation of pages for "Geo-Object Classes" Northern European SWG

Marine service, mrnsrv – Change notice back to an information object. Deleted rgdata.

Category of pilot, catplt – category of pilot was deleted completely, remote pilot became a new attribute which needs to be expanded on in the future (rmtplt), and pilot qualification also became an attribute (pltqfc).

Supplies, supply – definition was changed and the attribute list was edited.

Waste disposal, wasdis – small change in the definition.

Service hours, srvhrs – worked on the definition.

> **7 - 1   Action Melles/Parslow: Make request to TSMAD for a Boolean attribute type.**

Western European SWG

Administration area, admare – diplomaticRepresentation was removed because the group thought that nobody would be able to put it on charts made by other countries. Admare is the correct place to discuss country information.

Flag information, flginf – changed from an attribute to a geo object. WESWG will provide definitions.

Marine activity area, macare – we have to add concentration of shipping to the definition.

Concentration of shipping hazard area, catsha – Changed from category of marine activity (catmac).

Sea-plane landing area, splare – Agreed on the new definition proposal to TSMAD.

Risk of collision area, rskare – UKHO requested to keep this object, but there needs to be a clear distinction between this and concentration of shipping hazard area. A better definition is needed.

Calibration area, Calare – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Category of authority, cataut – calibration area authority was added with a peer to peer relationship with calibration area.

Piracy, pirare – deleted catpir and added guidance.

Port area, prtare – previously discussed – Associated information object classes (restrictions, recommendations, and regulations) will have to be discussed at the next meeting. Security level was made into its own object.

Security level according to ISPS code, seclvl – created to cover the level of security in a port area.

Radio station, radsta – ok as is. A proposal for a new geometry was not accepted.

Automated identification system as an aid to navigation, aisatn – moved under svcare.

Maritime mobile service identity, mmsico – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Light, lights – no changes were made

General nautical information area, nitare - changed from nautical publications area, npuare. Needs new definition – divided area of the world into homogenous areas. This is a generalization and could be covered in much more detail in other objects.

Radar transponder beacon, rtpbcn – there was a proposal to add name. This proposal was accepted by the group.

Radio/RADAR Service area, svcare - add CATROS and CATRAS. Remove catsvc. Added AIS used as an aid to navigation under CATROS.

7 - 2	**Action WESWG: Provide the definition for AIS used as an aid to navigation.**

7 - 3	**Action WESWG: Provide the definitions as required (see text above).**

12.2 Preparation of pages for "Information-Object Classes"

IMO report, imorep – New information object created in association with rgdata. Enumeration attribute needs to be created, not a list.

Holidays, holday – was moved from an attribute to an information object and it was changed to Non-working day, nwkday and two new attributes were added, fixed date (fixdat) and date description (dcrdat).
If anyone has a better suggestion for the name, please contact the WESWG chairman.

Guidance, guides – ok – deleted

Recommendations – Discussion but no resolution – more discussion needed.

Regulations, reglts – Discussion but no resolution – more discussion needed.

Restrictions, resdes – Restrictions has a large overlap with the current S-57 restrictions. **Recommendations, Regulations, and Restriction will become information objects.**

7 - 4	**Action Parslow: Will present the SNPWG's approach for Restriction to TSMAD.**

General nautical information, gennti - changed from headed text.

12.3   Preparation of pages for "Attributes"

Category of marine service, catmsv - The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Service access procedure, svaprc – The NESWG needs to do more research on this to decide whether it needs to be modelled in further detail or not.

IMO standard registration data, rgdata – Attribute as described is ok.

Category of supply, catsup – the definitions were changed a little bit.

Category of transport facilities, cattra – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Quantity limit, qualim – changed to qtylim.

Waste disposal, wasdis – remarks were edited.

Working days of the week, wkdywk – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Working hours of the day, wkhrdy – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Fixed date, fixdat – new to replace holiday in order to be used where a specific date is fixed

Date description, dcrdat – developed to replace holiday when the date is not fixed to reflect the Gregorian calendar.

Category of flag, catflg – added as an attribute of flginf.

Language information, lnginf- it was decided to use a string for this attribute. This enabled us to delete language and category of language.

National currency, ntncur – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Other currency, othcur – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

System international, siused - Deleted

Weights and measures, wemuse – Changed from Other weights and measures used.

Reason, reason – this was created as a new attribute under risk of collision area.

| 7 - 5 | Action WESWG: Write definition for reason. |

Category of calibration, catcall – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Controlling authority, conath – Deleted and category of authority was edited to cover its intended use.

Category of piracy or armed robbery risk area, catpir – Delete. We will use SORIND.

| 7 - 6 | Action Pharaoh: Add IMB to IHO producer authority codes. |

Development, dvlpmt – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Population in the vicinity of the port, popnbr – changed from population.

Port regulations, prtreg – deleted from the guidance object. It was decided that we needed to build a better way to describe vessel regulations as an information object.

Category of regulations, catreg – this is a new attribute under regulations

| 7 - 7 | Action Group: Look at the list of attributes under catreg to see what needs to be added. New proposals (with definitions) should be sent to Mr. Acland. |

ISPS level, ispslv - Changed from security level.

Volume of traffic, traffc – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Transportation infrastructure, trptfc – changed from transport facility

> **7 - 8 Action WESWG: Provide a better indication definition under transportation infrastructure.**

Weather risk remaining, wearsk – combination of weather impedes entry, weimen, and weather risk remaining, wearsk. The attribute will also be added to objects like anchorage area.

International light number, litnum –

> **7 - 9 Action WESWG: Provide a better indication definition for litnum**

National light number, nltnum – The SNPWG discussed and agreed that this proposal works as it is.

Light elevation, ltelev – withdrawn by WESWG.

Category of general nautical information subject, catnti – changed from Nautical publication information subject, npsubject. There must be a clear difference between this and the objects that describe the listed items in greater detail. This is to serve as an overview attribute.

> **7 - 10 Action SNPWG: The catnti structure list needs to be reviewed by the SNPWG and discussed at the next meeting.**

RACON reference number, racnum – The reference number of the RACON.

Category of service area, catsvc – Deleted. We will add CATROS and CATRAS to the service area object

> **7 - 11 Action ASWG: Venezuela and Argentina will work with the ASWG to make a proposal to symbolize a disputed area, ex. Venezuela's claim with Guyana. The results will be presented at the next SNPWG meeting.**

13. IHO Feature Data Dictionary Registry – The group took a look at the IHO Registry – Mr. Melles explained how the registry works and the different registry categories that are included. **www.ukhoftp.gov.uk/iho_registry**

13.1   SNPWG Register – Mr. Melles then described how to propose a new feature, filling out the feature proposal form, describing camel case <seaplaneLanding>, filling in the definition sources, references, recommended attributes, etc.
- The recommended attributes list (and other lists) should be better organized, possibly in alphabetical order and searchable.
- The control body should be changed from the HO to the working group responsible for the data.

**Register Manager – Mr. Tennant agreed to be the Register Manager.

> **7 - 12   Action Tennant: Discuss the Register Manager position with UKHO.**

> **7 - 13 Action UKHO: Will check into the possibility of their people populating the register.   For the new submissions we need to get the register populated in an expeditious manor.**

When entering data into the register the SNPWG will refer to the word file. After a file is approved by the SNPWG, it will be entered into the register and removed from the current version of the word file. After each SNPWG meeting, a new version of the word file will be created with the remaining proposals to be discussed.

> **7 - 14 Action Melles: Mr. Melles will contact Barrie Greenslade concerning the availability of the register**

> **7 - 15 Action Nyberg: Mr. Nyberg will enter SNPWG proposals into the hydro register**

14.   Any Other Business

** The SNPWG discussed and feels strongly that the Colours and Symbols Working Group should be involved in working on presentation standards with the SNPWG.

> **7 - 16 Action Pharaoh: Mr. Pharaoh will request information from Steve Shippman regarding the status of E-nav.**

** Mr. Melles announced that the next SNPWG meeting will be his final meeting as the chairman.

15.   Date and place of next meeting – September 10 – 14, Monaco for the next meeting, and the following meeting will be April 21 – 26, 2008 (tentatively) in Brest, FR.

7th Meeting of the Standardisation of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG)
12-16 February 2007, BSH, Rostock, Germany

No.	Agenda Item	Related Documents
1.	Opening and Administrative Arrangements	
2.	Approval of Agenda	7/001
3.	Matters arising	
3.1	Action Items from SNPWG 6	7/004
4.	Brief National Reports	
5.	Digipilot – Presentation by Denis Heul (NLHO)	
6.	Active Data – Presentation from Simon Salter (CherSoft)	7/012
7.	Report - Americas SNPWG-SubWG	
8.	Report – Western European SNPWG-SubWG	
9.	Report – Northern European SNPWG-SubWG	
10.	Review of the results of SNPWG 6 (Monaco)	
10.1	Use of RGDATA	7/005
10.2	Questions, comments, proposals	
11.	General issues	
11.1	Use of string attributes	7/005
11.2	List attributes versus repeating attributes	7/005
11.3	Use of information objects	7/005
12.	Discussion and review of the results of the SubWGs	7/006; 7/010
12.1	Preparation of pages for "Geo-Object Classes"	7/007
12.2	Preparation of pages for "Information-Object Classes"	7/008
12.3	Preparation of pages for "Attributes"	7/009
13.	IHO Feature Data Dictionary Registry	
13.1	SNPWG Register	
14.	Work Plan for the SNPWG	7/011
15.	Any Other Business	
14.	Date and place of next meeting	

Tuesday 13 February forenoon we will visit the Navigation school in Warnemünde where we will get a live demo of an ECDIS in their ships simulator.

**7th Meeting of the Standardisation of Nautical Publications Working Group
(SNPWG)
12-16 February 2007, BSH, Rostock, Germany**

LIST OF ATTENDEES

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Industry			
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SNPWG Proposed Work Plan

SNPWG Tasks

A.   Decide on the Data Structure of NPs-Data intended for use in ECDIS (NP3)

B.   Define the content requirements of NP data intended for use in ECDIS (NP3)

C.   Test data

D.   Develop basic display rules for NP data intended for use in ECDIS (NP3)

E.   Draft guidance documents

F.   Revise technical resolutions as required

G.   Liaise with other CHRIS WG's and other IHO and international bodies

Task	Work Item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-Completed	Contact Person	Affected Pubs/Standard	Remarks
A1	Decide on the Data Structure of NPs-Data intended for use in ECDIS (NP3)	H	Decision for a Data Structure (June 2004)	2003	2004	C	Chair/Sec SNPWG		NP3 Data should be encoded as S-57-objects which were modeled in UML where required.
A2	Look at existing systems on the market	H	June 2004	2003	2004	C	Chair/Sec SNPWG		
A3	Evaluate the pros and cons	H	June 2004	2003	2004	C	Chair/Sec SNPWG		

B1	Examine the content of traditional NPs	M	Content Specs (June 2004)	2004	2006	C	Chair/Sec SNPWG		Which NPs and NP data type should be included in NP3
B2	Model the data where required.	H	2006	2004	2008	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S-100	To be included in NPUB register
B3	Review of objects and attributes	H	2006	2004	2008	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S-100	Review of objects and attributes
B4	Propose amendments for "hydro register" to TSMAD	H	2006	2005 2008		O	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S-100	To be included in S-100 registry
B5	Create the "NPUB Register"	H	2006	2006	2007	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S-100	Create the "NPUB Register"
B6	Populate the NPUB Register	H	2007	2006	Open	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S-100	
B7	Draft Product Specification	M	2007	2008	2009	P	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S-10X	
B8	Proposal discovery and distribution. (meta)	M	Open- No deadline	2004	-	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG		Post discovery information on website
C1	Produce test data set	M	2007	2008	2009	P	Chair/Sec SNPWG		
C2	Set up a test bed	M	2007	2009	2009	P	Chair/Sec SNPWG		
D1	Develop basic display rules for NP data intended for use in ECDIS (NP3)	M	2007	2008	2009	P	Chair/Sec SNPWG	S52	Close Co-operation with CSMWG required.
E1	Data Capture Guidance	M	2007	2008	2009	P	Chair/Sec SNPWG		Document like Use of the Object Catalog for NPs
F1	Revise technical	L	2008	2010	2011	P	Chair/Sec	M3	

	resolutions						SNPWG		
G1	Liaise with the CSMWG for the development of the display rules	H	~~2007~~	2005	Open	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG		
G2	Liaise with the TSMADWG	H	~~2007~~	2004	Open	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG		
G3	Liaise with other relevant WGs	H	~~2007~~	2004	Open	O	Chair/Sec SNPWG		Contact ICE Registry manager