

**Proposal for Consideration by TSMAD
Victoria (Canada)**

29th November – 3rd December 2010

Potential removal of CATZOC- Un-assessed Enumeration

Submitted by:	Canada
Executive Summary:	This is a discussion paper proposing the retention of the enumeration value of “unassessed” within Version 1 of the S101 standard.
Related Documents:	TSMAD20/DIPWG2-16.5 TSMAD21-3A_Minutes TSMAD20
Related Projects:	S-101

Introduction / Background

In the past, CHS ENC products were created based on existing paper chart products. At that time, there was no assessment done to see which bathymetric sources were used to construct the paper chart, and therefore, CATZOC was not used in its full capacity to qualify the quality of the bathymetric data within CHS ENC products. In order to comply with the S-57 standard CHS has historically encoded a single M_QUAL object with a CATZOC value of “unassessed”, which covers the entire CATCOV1 area of the ENC. It has only been in the last year that CHS has begun to capture this information from new survey data, thus making it available to production staff. This data is now slowly making its way to new Canadian ENCs and new editions.

It would however, require a monumental effort to review the entire Canadian portfolio of ENCs and add multiple M_QUAL objects to adequately describe the mixture of survey information that may cover the waters of every individual ENC.

At the TSMAD20 meeting (see TSMAD20/DIPWG2-16.5) a document was presented on the S101 consistency and there it was suggested that the “Unassessed” attribute enumeration should be dropped to improve the consistency of ENCS. Although Canada is in accord with the goal of improving ENC consistency, we could not support this approach of simply dropping “Unassessed” as a valid attribute value for the following reasons.

- TSMAD has stated and publicized that the initial version of the S101 product specification will essentially be equivalent in content to the existing S57 datasets.
- Many countries are in possession of large amounts of un-assessed source material. Eliminating the “Unassessed” attribute value will force a significant migration delay for many HO’s in the Migration to the S101 standard in order to fully qualify navigable waters with proper M_QUAL attribution.

Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that TSMAD put forth one of the following suggestions to move towards the goal of ENC consistency in the matter of CATZOC.

1. Leave the enumeration value, of “Unassessed”, for the initial version of the S101 profile. In a later version it could be recommended to drop this value. This would allow for a smoother migration to the S101 standard without forcing every country to have 100% CATZOC coverage assessed before migrating to the new standard.
2. Make 100% M_QUAL coverage optional. This would allow HO's to encode CATZOC in the channels where the knowledge of the data quality is better known, as well, it would permit HOs to migrate to S101 sooner. (see TSMAD21-3A_Minutes TSMAD20 Item 16.5)