

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

29th November – 3rd December 2010

Discussion paper on the use of EXPSOU

Submitted by: Canada
Executive Summary: This is a discussion paper on the use of EXPSOU within ENC's
Related Documents:
Related Projects: S-101

Introduction / Background

In the past Canada would encode EXPSOU with a value of “Shallower than surrounding area” when a SOUNDG object was located within a depth area that was shallower than the surrounding water. Then it was discovered that some ECDIS did not address soundings of this nature as a potential hazard. Encoding bulletin 27 provided HOs with a method to ensure the mariners that safety was addressed quickly instead of waiting for the software manufactures to correct the issue and re-certify their equipment.

As with many HOs, Canada initiated a review of its portfolio to determine if the potential hazard existed and initiated ENC updates/new editions, if required, to ensure the mariners safety.

Given the following EXPSOU values::

- 1 . within the range of depth of the surrounding depth area
- 2. shoaler than the range of the depth of the surrounding depth area**
3. deeper than the range of the depth of the surrounding depth area

the only value that offered any significant navigational information was value 2. As well, Canada now codes soundings that exhibit this situation in accordance with EB27. Thus Canada has decided to stop encoding the optional EXPSOU attribute completely.

Discussion Item

Canada would like to know what are other countries doing in this regard? Are you continuing to use the EXPSOU attribute and if so for what purpose?

Recommendation