

## Paper for Consideration by TSMAD

### Items for Consideration for Encoding Bulletins

<b>Submitted by:</b>	UK
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	This paper proposes a number of items for possible improved encoding guidance.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	1. S-57
<b>Related Projects:</b>	1. S-101

#### Introduction / Background

1. This paper raises a number of issues for TSMAD consideration. The UK has identified these issues from user feedback and proposes improved encoding guidance to improve ENC capture. The items are listed in annex

#### Item 1. ACHARE double encoding

The UK has received user feedback that the non-display of Anchorage Area names in ECDIS creates significant issues for vessels in some areas. In some cases a vessel not being able to identify the anchorage it is directed to can result in a non-compliance with port regulations.



Figure 1 – Anchorage area for which OBJNAM does not display.

This issue was identified as part of the ongoing UK proposal to revise S-52 as it requires changes to the S-52 look up tables. However, given the timescales for such a change and the fact that any deferred amendment would also take time to reach vessels the UK has taken encoding action in the interim.

In such cases particularly where large numbers Anchorages exist in close proximity the UK is double encoding a SEAARE object with the OBJNAM of the ACHARE which ensures that the name displays.



Figure 2 – Encoding work around applied so that the Anchorage name displays

Recommendation

The UK recommends that TSMAD produce an encoding bulletin to make producers aware of this issue and the appropriate work-around.

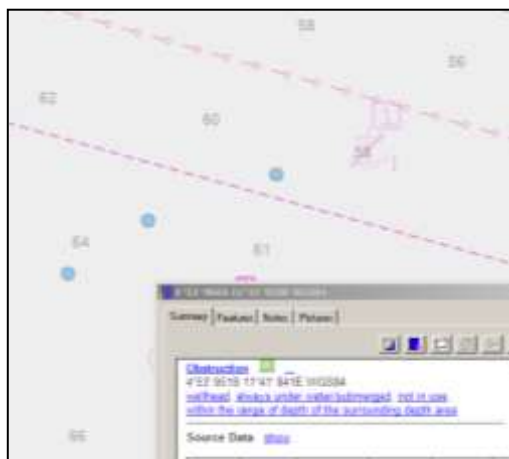
2. Use of EXPSOU = 1

Population of EXPSOU on Obstructions where VALSOU is unknown and WATLEV=3

At DIPWG 3 a deferred amendment was proposed by Jeppesen to reduce the number of unnecessary isolate danger symbols which display in ECDIS. The UK raised concerns and this amendment was withdrawn, however the UK from its investigation the UK noted the following;

When VALSOU is not populated and WATLEV=3 the feature will display as an isolated danger. However if source information supports the population of EXPSOU=1 (within the range of depth of the surrounding depth area) its population will reduce the number of unnecessary isolated danger symbols.

Example;



Obstrn encoded with EXPSOU=1



Obstrn encoded without EXPSOU

### Recommendation

TSMAD to issue encoding guidance to remind encoders that the population of EXPSOU=1 where known will significantly reduce the number of inappropriate isolated dangers displayed.

### 3. Encoding of Magnetic Variation Information

It has been noted that magnetic variation information is currently included in ENC's in different ways and may not be encoded in all ENC's. For S-101 the possibility of a separate product has been raised but TSMAD should strive to make this information consistent for users across all ENC's. Although rarely used less since the advent of GNSS a magnetic compass is still a carriage requirement under SOLAS.

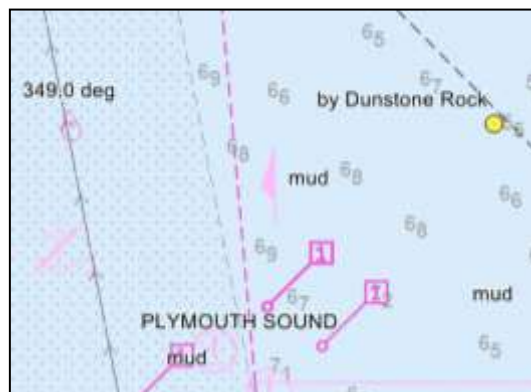


Figure 1 – Magnetic Variation captured as an area with a resulting 'moving' symbol.



Figure 2 – Magnetic variation captured as a point which results in a point symbol and the value of magnetic variation displaying.

The UK has received the following user feedback from an ECDIS lecturer at a maritime college in the UK. I would stress the lecturer is in no way connected to the UKHO;

Tom,

The magnetic variation wasn't something I'd noticed until I did a Transas ECDIS course in Hamburg three weeks ago and it was mentioned there. The UKHO charts were held up as the best with the other producers' method being less user friendly.

I'd tend to agree with the GB cell method. The variation information is available everywhere just by using the chart pick function. The other method where variation is just point information is not that helpful as you need to look for it. Depending on the display settings the variation symbol may not be visible, this doesn't matter in GB cells as the user knows they can get the information anywhere.

I'm not sure if it could be done any better, but certainly standardising it to the UKHO method would be very helpful for the end user (and the poor instructors!)

Let me know if there is anything else we can help you with.

Very best regards

Chris

### Recommendation

TSMAD to issue encoding guidance to encourage encoders to capture magnetic variation using area objects covering the entire cell. With this approach the user is able to pick at any location and access magnetic variation information through the pick report.

### **Action Required of TSMAD**

- To consider the proposed items for improved encoding guidance