

Paper for Consideration by TSMAD

Report of the Defence Geospatial Information Working Group (DGIWG)

Submitted by:	DGIWG
Executive Summary:	This paper presents the need for active cooperation between TSMAD and DGIWG as they develop related standards.
Related Documents:	a) DGIWG IHO Cooperation Agreement
Related Projects:	1. S-100 2.0.0

Introduction / Background

1. DGIWG is the multi-national body responsible for geospatial standardization for the defence organizations of member nations. It develops standards based on the ISO TC211 series of standards and makes use of the service specifications endorsed by the Open Geospatial Consortium. DGIWG is primarily tasked by NATO but its standards are intended for use by all of its members. DGIWG has a cooperation agreement (reference a)) with IHO which seeks to ensure cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

2. Historically cooperation between DGIWG and IHO has been strong and this included the Hydrographic Information Harmonization Working Group (HIHWG) which enabled the convergence of previous standards. As a new generation of standards evolve in both communities coordination is vital to avoid divergence and ensure interoperability. Furthermore in times of resource constraint for all nations the need to realize possible synergies in areas of mutual interest is greater than ever.

Analysis/Discussion

3. Both DGIWG and IHO are developing frameworks for the exchange of geospatial information built on the ISO 19100 standards. For IHO the S-100 standard has been published and is evolving as product specifications develop. For DGIWG its NATO Geospatial Information Framework (NGIF) 1.0 is being finalized and the development of product specifications is planned.

4. As Geospatial information has transitioned into the digital domain the need for standardization has become greater than ever. In order to support efficient exchange and use of GI by organizations across military and civilian communities' common or aligned conceptual models need to be used. Where appropriate data models within these should also be aligned (the HIHWG work was an example of this post facto). IHO and DGIWG have the opportunity to ensure the maximum possible alignment as the next generation of standards evolves. As both communities extend and profile ISO and OGC standards possibilities for divergence may occur. There is also a risk of duplication with organizations developing very similar components of their standards suites.

5. Both IHO and DGIWG are developing standards in the following specific areas;

- a. Portrayal Registers and the standardization of Portrayal information as described in ISO 19117.
- b. Metadata Registers.
- c. Coordinate Reference System and Units of Measure Registers

Conclusion

6. DGIWG and the IHO have a formal basis for cooperation. At this time a need for greater active cooperation exists and areas of possible synergy should be explored. At this stage active participation in working groups of both organizations by interested nations is required.

Action Required of TSMAD

- Member states are invited to encourage active cooperation of their relevant organizations within both IHO working groups and the DGIWG.

