

Relevance of information overlay services and their status in the global IHO ENC programme (WENDWG5-04b)

AIO (Admiralty information overlay) service

- ⚓ Additional layer (S-57 format, S-63 encrypted) to ENC's
- ⚓ Available through AVCS and on compatible equipment
- ⚓ Contains all Admiralty T&P NMs and provides additional preliminary information that is specific to ENC's

- ⚓ Displayed as a red-transparent area with an associated window

The screenshot shows a navigation software interface. On the left, a map displays a red-transparent area around a buoy, labeled '5102(T)/11'. The map includes depth soundings and a coastline. On the right, a detailed information window is open, titled 'Temporary Notice to Mariners: 5102(T)/11'. The window contains the following text:

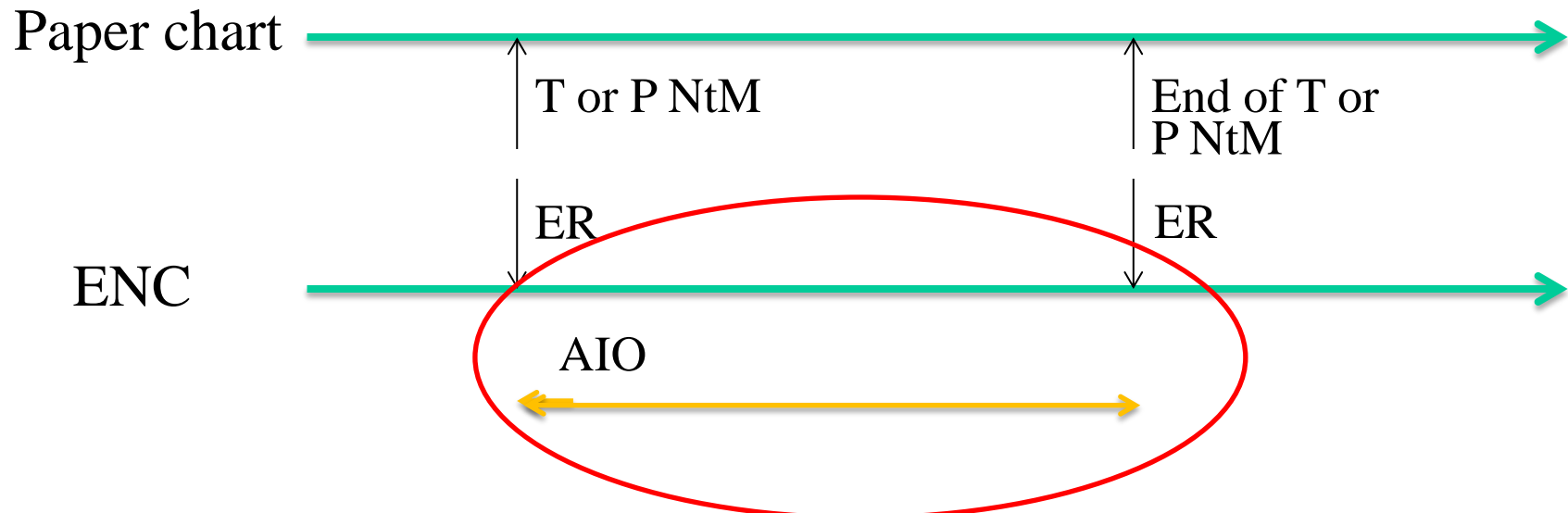
Temporary Notice to Mariners: 5102(T)/11
[For cells GB202675, FR301040, FR474160](#) [more](#)
Buoy. Automatic Identification System. Restricted area.
Positions quoted in the Temporary Notice reproduced below are referred to WGS84 or a compatible datum and may be plotted directly on this ENC. Some or all of the information contained in this Notice to Mariners may have been included in... [more](#)

Source Data [hide](#)

[Country](#) UK
[Authority](#) United Kingdom Hydrographic Office
[Source](#) graph
[ID](#) French Notice 41/03(T)/11

Nav. Purpose	Cell	Compilation Scale	Issued	Base Issued	Installed Edition
ENC Approach	FR474160	1:45 000	07/11/2013	16/03/2013	1.004
Admiralty Information Overlay	GB800001	Unscaled	12/12/2013	26/09/2013	19.011

- ⚓ Although a digital product for the safety of navigation, AIO is not a IHO or IMO official product compliant with IHO standard
- ⚓ On 53 IHO MS producers of ENC's, 30 issue (in 2014) ENC revisions to cover their paper chart NtMs



Redundancy
If different, which is the good one?

On the compliance of AIOs with :

- ⚓ SOLAS, V9/3: *“...Contracting Governments undertake to ensure the greatest possible uniformity in charts and nautical publications and to take into account, whenever possible, relevant international resolutions and recommendations”*
- ⚓ IHO resolution 7/1919: *“Hydrographic Offices should avoid creating products where another Hydrographic Office has charting responsibility for the waters concerned and already offers up-to-date products adequate for customers' requirements”*
- ⚓ SOLAS, V2: *“Nautical chart or nautical publication is [...] issued officially by or on the authority of a Government, authorized Hydrographic Office...”*

- ⚓ *“The Overlay makes passage planning simpler and safer...”
(from AIO user guide)*
- ⚓ *“To help bridge crews identify areas of possible navigational uncertainty and risk at the crucial passage planning stage, all AVCS customers receive the unique ADMIRALTY Information Overlay” (from AVCS documentation)*

⇒ IHO ENC service not as safe as it should be? Not adequate for costumers' requirements?

⚓ **If AIO is considered by IHO offering an advantage for safety of navigation** (that can not be achieved by a better application of rules already existing or to be improved), then:

⚓ *Its use should be envisaged by IHO (through actions to be programmed),*

⚓ *AIO should be interoperable with all type approved systems*

⚓ *Coastal States should be informed as soon as possible of the “additional” information concerning safety of navigation in waters they are responsible for.*

⚓ **If not** (risks exceed advantages):

⚓ *Procedures should be agreed and applied between AVCS producer and IHO ENC producers so AIO should*

Conclusions and recommendations:

- ⚓ Assessment of the defaults AIO aims to deal with should be undertaken
- ⚓ Ways and means to correct them should be considered by IHO in order to fulfil its commitment to the mariners.
- ⚓ Stakeholders should be invited to consider whether IO services should be either improved or generalized or abandoned as soon as all T&P NtM are coded in ENC's

⇒ WENDWG should propose IRCC include in its PoW an action to propose a position and a way ahead about the provision of IO