

**6<sup>th</sup> WENDWG Meeting**  
**Stavanger, Norway, 8 – 10 March 2016**

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**Proposal for Consideration by WENDWG**  
**[Admiralty Information Overlays - conclusions]**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Finland, <u>France</u> , Hong Kong Hydrographic Office, Norway, Singapore, Sweden
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p>WENDWG has been tasked to consider the relevance of Admiralty Information Overlay services based on their own feedback and considering the report produced by UKHO on AIO benefits/risk assessment. Several ENC producers have given their views and submitters consider that it is now possible to come to a conclusion in three points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- AIO should be withdrawn for the areas where the primary charting authority produces P/T NtMs for their ENC</li><li>- AIO service should be provided only if and after a given ENC producer has provided its consent</li><li>- Awareness and use of P/T updates should be improved. This should be taken into account in future S-101 based ECDIS (noting also, possibilities that already exist in S-124) and included in ENCWG work plans.</li></ul>
<b>Related Documents:</b>	<p>IRCC6-08B Relevance of information overlay services and their status in the global IHO ENC program HSSC6-05.5D rev1 Relevance of information overlay services with respect to IHO standards HSSC7-05.6B Additional overlays – update from WENDWG HSSC7-05.6C Admiralty Information Overlays and P/T updates in Swedish ENCs CSPCWG11-09.4c US comments on papers submitted by the IHB, UK and the CSPCWG chair regarding Information Overlay Services and the consistency of information on paper charts and ENCs</p>
<b>Related Projects:</b>	

### **Introduction / Background**

AIO subject is under discussion at HSSC, IRCC, WENDWG and in several RHCs since more than two years.

At WENDWG5 it was decided for UKHO to produce a report on AIO benefits/risk assessment and for WENDWG Members to provide comments on the report.

### **Analysis/Discussion**

Finland, Poland, Sweden and France have given their views concerning the relevance of the AIO service and given their feedback. The analysis and discussions are reported in HSSC7-05.6B and HSSC7-05.6C.

### **Conclusions**

A consensus is arising from the feedbacks on the following essential matters:

- For ENC producing nations that issue all necessary updates, including P/T, to official ENCs on a regular basis the AIO service is a redundant product which is not needed for a safe navigation. Moreover, having duplicate means of distributing P/T updates to the ECDIS

environment creates severe confusion for the end user and causes a considerable risk that important information for navigation is not recognized by the user,

- For ENC producing nations that do not provide P/T updates, they might consent that an AIO service is set up on their waters,
- Current solution for the portrayal and use of P/T updates in ENC (S-57, S-58, ECDIS ) is not always understood by end users notwithstanding possibilities of ECDIS reported in HSSC-05.6B Annex B Appendix 1.

### **Recommendations**

It seems today possible and necessary to come to the following recommendations for the benefit of the safety of navigation:

1. For producing nations that provide P/T NtMs for their ENC, the existence of two different services, official ENCs and AIO, must be avoided. This issue has been discussed for a couple of years now without reaching a solution. It is proposed:
  - a. that the UKHO withdraws their AIO service for the areas where the primary charting authority produces P/T NtMs for their ENC,
  - b. that the AIO service will be provided only if and after a given producer nation has provided consent for such a service on waters where it is the primary charting authority. Bilateral agreement should be sought in such circumstances prior to AIO entering into service,
2. WENDWG recommends that an improved solution for awareness and use of P/T updates in future S-101 based ECDIS be included in ENCWG work plans (HSSC should make sure of that). In the interim period possibilities of S-124 should be considered.

### **Justification and Impacts**

Recommendation 1.a will allow to clarify responsibilities and to avoid confusion when all necessary updates are already available for the regular ENC service.

Recommendation 1.b will allow concerned producers to be aware of additional services available on their national waters.

Recommendation 2 will ensure a better portrayal of P/T taking in to account the feedback from S-57, ECDIS users.

### **Action Required of WENDWG**

The WENDWG is invited to:

- a. note the paper
- b. prepare a recommendation for IRCC
- c. ask UKHO to take into consideration the recommendations above