



**Status of recommendations on the work done in the BSEHWG (Baltic Sea ENC Harmonisation Work Group)**

The Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC) has recognized the need for ENC harmonisation at its 12<sup>th</sup> Conference in June 2007. The BSHC established a Baltic Sea ENC Harmonisation Working Group (BSEHWG) with TORs to review inconsistencies between ENCs and to propose actions to resolve them. The BSEHWG should report by the end of July 2008.

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Recommendation 1

**Navigational purpose Overview**

1a) **Overview** navigational purpose should be in harmony with other navigational purposes within the producers' portfolios.

1b) The **Overview** cell should be harmonised with adjacent cells in the North Sea.

**All countries which have Overview cell have fulfilled the recommendation 1a and 1b.**

**Recommendation 2**

**Navigational purpose Harbour and Berthing**

The **Harbour and Berthing** navigational purposes should be in harmony with other navigational purposes within the producers' portfolios.

**All countries are following the appointed time schedule for implementation. Some countries have completed the work, others are still implementing.**

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**Recommendation 3**

**Use of Compilation Scale**

On the Baltic Sea, the following values for the compilation scales should be used:

180,000	(General)
90,000	(Coastal)
22,000	(Approach)

**All countries are following the appointed time schedule for implementation (4 countries have completed the task).**

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Recommendation 4

**Exceptions in the use of Compilation Scale**

If a Hydrographic Office (HO) wants to use a compilation scale other than those recommended above, it may do so if all the following conditions are met:

- i) the value used is in line with the intention of the IHO CL 47/2004
- ii) use of it is agreed bilaterally with neighbouring HO(s) concerned, in order to avoid inconsistencies at the border, and
- iii) every effort is made to minimise possible inconsistencies due to deviations from the recommended compilation scale.

**Some countries make use of exceptions and for those, they all following the recommendation.**

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**Recommendation 5**  
**Use of SCAMIN**  
BSHC should adopt the guidelines as stated in the [Annex J](#).  
4 countries have completed the task. Some are still working on the implementation. No need for adjustment in the time schedule.

Recommendation 6  
**Contour intervals**  
6a) The BSEHWG proposes that the BSHC establishes a Working Group to study possibilities for Harmonisation of the Conveying and Presentation of Depth Information for both ENC's and paper charts.  
6b) Meanwhile, if the IHO recommended contour intervals are not applicable, or if additional intervals are needed, implementation should be agreed bilaterally/multilaterally so that possible inconsistencies to the mariners could be avoided.  
The working group **BSHDIWG** is established.  
Countries are cooperating when they chose the contour interval in the boarding area.

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Recommendation 7  
**Harmonisation of features continuing/extending over national borders**  
All BSHC countries should ensure that bilateral agreements are in place with their neighbouring countries concerning harmonisation of features continuing/extending over national borders.  
Some countries has bilateral agreements.  
Some are in progress with bilateral agreements.

**Recommendation 8**  
**Checking harmonisation before launching new ENC's**  
All BSHC countries should check and carry out harmonisation before launching updates or new editions of ENC's.  
Different status (not started, ongoing or done)

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**Recommendation 9**  
**Buffer zones along the national borders**  
All BSHC countries should check that there are no gaps between cells at national borders by establishing a buffer zone of up to 5 metres, if necessary.  
Done, ongoing or not started

Recommendation 10  
**Adoption of new versions of ENC related standards**  
The BSHC should agree on joint plans and time schedules for the adoption of new versions of ENC related standards (e.g. S-57 Ed. 3.1.1 or S-101).  
When adopted

Recommendation 11  
**Adoption of new object classes**  
The BSHC should agree on joint plans and a time schedule for the adoption of new object classes on their products.  
When adopted

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Recommendation 12  
**The use of objects to ensure consistency**  
12a) BSHC should encourage all countries to make further studies of the use of objects in the Baltic Sea ENC's and report to the following BSHC meeting.  
12b) BSHC should decide on proper actions to ensure ENC consistency as far as possible.  
Ongoing (minor adjustment to the end date).

Recommendation 13  
**Special circumstances**  
If found necessary it is possible to deviate from the recommendations. When doing so, the relevant HO should make every effort to minimise the effect of any inconsistencies that may occur. This should be done through bilateral/multilateral agreements and through harmonisation of data in order to ensure that no serious disharmony is introduced to the ENC's.  
Countries which has a need for special circumstances use them in cooperation with its neighbouring countries.

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Recommendation 14

**Promotion of regional approaches**

BSHC should ask the IHO Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems (CHRIS) to consider appropriate actions to recommend other Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs) to adopt regional implementations to IHO consistency recommendations within their sea areas.

**Done.**

See CHRIS/20 Minutes and IHO CL 89/2008.

Recommendation 15

**Training and education**

All relevant bodies are encouraged to continue the education of mariners regarding 'ECDIS', 'ECS', 'ENC' and 'Electronic chart'.

**Ongoing.**

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Recommendation 16

**Follow-up of implementation**

All BSHC countries should follow the time schedule for the implementation of all relevant recommendations as stated in [Annex L](#).

**Ongoing.**

Recommendation 17

**Reporting of the implementation of the recommendations**

BSHC members should report annually to BSHC Conferences on the implementation of these recommendations.

**Done.**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The BSEHWG proposes that the BSHC 15th Conference considers the following proposal.

**Proposals:**

- The BSEHWG will continue the annularly reporting of the implementation of the recommendations.
- BSEHWG cease its work.

**Actions required from the BSHC 15th Conference:**

The BSHC 15th Conference is requested to consider the above proposals and to take appropriate action.