

Harmonized coastline for Norway

The common interest for development in the coastal zone is increasing; therefore the need for a connection between geographical information for sea and land areas has arisen. New technical solutions open up for a simple positioning of this information and new products are being developed continually. This has created new requirements for the products of the Norwegian Mapping Authority, with regard to positional accuracy, updates and coordination.

At the present time, the Norwegian Mapping Authority delivers products with different definitions of the coastline. The coastline in today's nautical charts and land maps are different. This makes it difficult to connect land and sea information. At the same time, it demonstrates that the Norwegian Mapping Authority lacks a common plan for data management and updates. Over a span of many years, different models of coastline data management have been discussed; but, at last, the work to establish a common data management strategy has been completed.

The harmonized coastline project gives seamless data over sea and land

The work of establishing a harmonized coastline database started in May 2009. The harmonized coastline will be a compilation of the coastline from both hydrographic and topologic mapping, where the most accurate and updated data will be chosen, case by case. The plan is that the Norwegian Mapping Authority's primary harmonized coastline database is to be finished by March 2011. In addition, the goal is to establish a harmonized and generalized coastline, and to plan and implement a common data management for both databases for the whole Norwegian Mapping Authority.



In the example above, the red coastline is from topologic maps, and the blue from nautical charts.