

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
NATIONAL REPORT
“RSAHC 2011”

Introduction

Countries without a hydrographic services should make arrangements, either by contract, or by agreement with an expert hydrographic office, to conduct surveys to define their national jurisdiction. Because of the lack of hydrographic services, KSA cooperates with neighboring states to define maritime boundaries, contracting with a specialist company to conduct the survey to IHO standards.

Principal functions of the H.O.

Conducting Hydrographic/Bathymetric Surveys in Saudi waters and production of nautical charts.

Establishing sea level datum and relate them to land datum through analyzing tides.

Data gathering & processing ocean currents, water movement, tides and other oceanographic parameters of interest to navigation & maritime related activities.

Charting hazardous zones for navigation.

Providing professional services in hydrography and cartography to institutions, dealing with coastal and offshore development and utilization of ocean resources.

Establishing and maintaining cooperation with international and national institutes related to hydrography.

Coverage new survey

Survey of north of Jeddah (3000 km/sq), GCS, GDMS.

Survey the Saudi waters between Qatar and UAE (the corridor) , Port Authority and GDMS.

Survey the area (part of Gulf of Aqaba) between Saudi and Egyptian coast, HVDC electrical interconnector cable crossing the Gulf of Aqaba. MMT Company and GDMS.

No ENC were produced or existing chart updated during the year;

No international charts were produced or distributed during the year.

No new publications were issued during the year;

MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION (MSI)

GMDSS facilities are available in Saudi Arabia. Coast Guard responsible for the order existing facilities and they trying to develop the system.

Publication S-55:

No update of this publication was made during the year.

Capacity Building:

4 officers were finished their training course in India (CAT B) & (CAT A).

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Requirement for Expertise and training.

The Hydrographic Department (GDMS) of Saudi Arabia is in need of an experienced hydrographer with strong background in hydrographic surveys and nautical charts production.

Training Requirements:

- Our current plan for the immediate future is to send some of our officers to receive training in hydrographic surveying (Cat B) & (Cat A).
- MBES & Data Processing.
- ENC'S Production.
- Data Management.

Oceanographic Activities:

A seismic survey carried out by ARAMCO Company was continue in the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea.

A magnetic survey carried out by ARAMCO was also completed in the Gulf.

Tide Gauge Network

Currently three tide gauges on the west coasts are operational in Saudi Arabia, which are part of some hydrographic survey projects which conducted in the west coast.

There is a tide gauge network will establish end of this year (2011) which contains of approximately 18 tide gauges distributed on the Saudi coasts.

Future work

With the assistance of the maritime related international organization and friendly countries, Saudi Hydrographic Department is progressing well. It is expected that confidence building efforts in the field of Hydrography and oceanography will continue further.