



IHB File No. S3/8151/HSSC

CIRCULAR LETTER 81/2014
22 December 2014

ADOPTION OF NEW EDITIONS OF IHO PUBLICATIONS:

S-52 - Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS, Edition 6.1.0

S-52, Annex A - IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS, Edition 4.0.0

S-64 - IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS, Edition 3.0.0

References:

- A. IHO Circular Letter 55/2014 dated 11 August - *Approval of new editions of IHO Publications: S-52 - Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS, Edition 6.1.0, S-52, Annex A - IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS, Edition 4.0.0, S-64 - IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS, Edition 3.0.*
- B. IHO Resolution 1/2014 - *Guiding Principles for IHO Funds.*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Circular Letter in Reference A proposed the adoption of a draft revised Edition 6.1.0 of IHO Publication S-52 - *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS*, a draft new Edition 4.0.0 of Annex A to S-52 - *IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS*, and a draft new Edition 3.0.0 of IHO Publication S-64 - *IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS*. The Directing Committee would like to thank the following 50 Member States that replied: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Latvia, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and USA.

2. All Member States supported the adoption of the revised edition of S-52 and of the new edition of the Presentation Library. The adoption of the new edition of S-64 was supported by 49 Member States with one Member State abstaining. Five Member States offered comments. All comments and the outcome of their review in liaison with the Chairs of the relevant IHO Working Groups are provided in the Annex to this letter.

3. The outcome of the consultation of Member States was reviewed by the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) at its 6th meeting (11-14 November 2014). The Committee approved the publication of the new editions, subject to final checks in liaison with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

4. There are currently 82 Member States of the IHO with three States suspended. Therefore, in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article VI of the Convention on the IHO, the majority required for adoption of the new editions is 40. As a result, **Edition 6.1.0 of S-52, Edition 4.0.0 of Annex A to S-52 and Edition 3.0.0 of S-64**, as amended to reflect the comments received and the final checks requested by the HSSC, have been adopted and will be posted on the IHO website.

5. As indicated in Reference A, the date of the date of entry into force of these new editions will be aligned with the date of publication of the new edition of IEC 61174 - *Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) - Operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results*. From that date, the new editions will be the normative references for the type approval of new ECDIS. The previous editions will remain valid for twelve months beyond the date of entry into force of the new editions. If the date of entry into force of the new edition of IEC-61174 is September 2015, this means that the previous editions of S-52, S-52 Annex A and S-64 will remain valid until 31 August 2016.

6. In accordance with Reference B, a charge is levied on the Presentation Library to offset the costs of contracts required to maintain this Publication. The new edition, like the previous ones, will be available on CD-ROM at a cost of 500 euros.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO
Director

Annex A: Member States' responses to CL 55/2014 and comments from the IHB.

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO CL 55/2014 AND
COMMENTS FROM THE IHB**

**ADOPTION OF NEW EDITIONS OF IHO PUBLICATIONS:
S-52 - Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS, Edition 6.1.0
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S-64 - IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS, Edition 3.0.0**

CHILE

Chile (SHOA) abstains from approving or disapproving the adoption of Ed. 3.0.0 of S-64 IHO Data Set for ECDIS. The reason for this is that SHOA does not have the necessary tools to perform this task. It does not seem proper for SHOA to vote on a standard setting an ENC Test data Set for ECDIS for which it does not have the profile to assess such test.

IHB Comment: Comment noted.

FRANCE

Following the work done by the DPSWG, a test on the display of message SSE27 of S-63 1.1 was developed to check that the ECDIS conforms to S-63 1.1 rather than to a previous version. This test could be included in S-64.

IHB Comment: Agreed. The test is included in section 2.5.6 of the Instruction Manual.

JAPAN

1. Linear depth areas should be removed from the S-64 test datasets (GB4X0000.000 in 2.1.1 Power Up folder and etc.) because UOC Ed 4.0.0 requires to do so at the next edition of ENCs.

2. FNCLNE (L) can be encoded at the sea (for example, piles in line). However, encoding only FNCLNE (L) is not navigationally safe. Japan recommends that ECDIS provides an alert for FNCLNE (L) at the sea or that FNCLNE (L) is encoded with LNDARE (L) at the sea. (Japan takes the latter.)

IHB Comment:

1. *The intention was to remove linear depth areas from the test datasets, in accordance with UOC Ed. 4.0.0. However it appeared that this would require a new edition of the base cells and recreation of the updates, many of which have been manually changed in a hex editor to create erroneous versions for testing purposes. The one occurrence which could affect the result of a test (cell AA50THER.000) has been removed. The other occurrences will be removed after ensuring that there is no undesired side effect and the test data sets will be updated when appropriate as described in section 1.9 of the Instruction Manual.*

2. *It is not expected that fences or walls (FNCLNE (L)) would need to be encoded in the sea environment and to generate an alert. If such an object is present at sea and dangerous for navigation, it would be preferable to encode the object as an obstruction (OBSTRN). Encoding the object as a land area (LNDARE) is acceptable if it is always dry (see UOC ED 4.0.0, clause 6.2.2). Japan may wish to consider proposing an amendment to the UOC if appropriate.*

UK

We have provided comments to various sections of the Instruction Manual (TIM) in line with expert reviews internally and externally. These have been completed and sent to the IHB. We understand further comments by other Member States are still in progress by IHB and TSMAD experts and are content to approve publication once these have been completed.

IHB Comment: The comments provided by UK were incorporated in the final version of Edition 3.0.0 of S-64, together with additional feedback from final checks by experts from Member States and from Industry.

USA

A small number of errors have been identified in the S-52, Presentation Library Look-Up Tables found in the Presentation Library, Part 1 app and the DAI format digital file that also stores look-up table information. The changes needed to correct these errors are described on the following pages.

IHB Comment: The changes identified by USA were incorporated in the final version of Edition 4.0.0 of the Presentation Library.