

9th Nautical Cartography Working Group
Taunton, UK, 27 November – 1 December

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023	
Tasks	Organize, prepare and report meetings of HSSC working groups and Project Teams
2.1.2	
2.1.2.4	NCWG

The 9th meeting of the Nautical Cartography Working Group was held in Taunton, UK from November 27 to December 1, 2023 in a fully hybrid format. The meeting was chaired by Mikko Hovi (Finland). The Working Group started day one with a complete review of actions and items of interest arising from HSSC, Council, Assembly and other HSSC Working Groups. Additionally, the group covered general administrative items including updates to their Terms of Reference, Work Plan, and running list of action items.

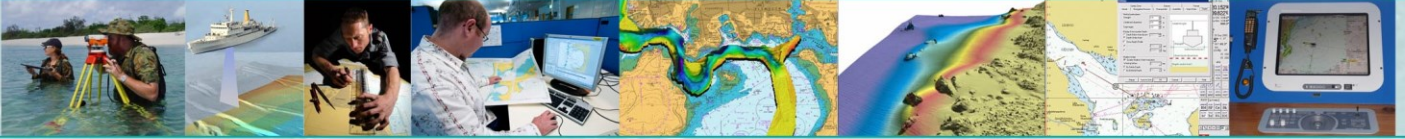
As is usual practice for the Working Group, it considered a number of proposals and clarifications for chart symbols crossing the full suite of charting products, including paper, S-57, and S-101.



WG Photo

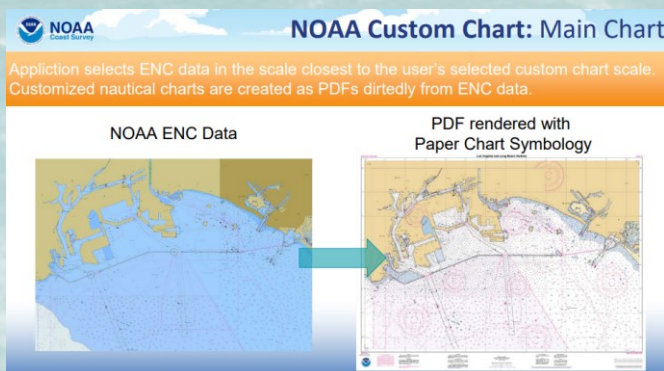
The Group considered the work of the Baseline Symbology Project Team which presented the work that it has done to present and asked the Group to consider its future direction and leadership. The Project Team noted many of the challenges that it is facing, most notably resources, but was pleased to introduce an agreed colour palette for nautical charts to be considered for addition to S-4. The Working Group intends to present the universal colour palette to the HSSC in 2024. The Baseline Symbology Project Team also presented the work that they have started to crosswalk symbols across all charting products including printed and digital representations and confirmed their charge to coordinate symbols, colours, lines, styles, etc. for implementation in charts of any kind.

The Project Team held a ¼ day session to consider the future of the Team. The meeting resulted in an improved understanding of how to use technology to move the work forward and an increased Team membership.



The Group received presentations from the UKHO on the Electronic Charting System (ECS) Project Team which is considering the segment of the shipping industry that is not required to use ECDIS but is still mandated to use official products.

The Working Group considered comments on the future of INT chart schemes from India (NHO), and the Secretariat (John Nyberg) provided a presentation that provided clarification from the Secretariat's perspective. It was agreed that many of the items presented in the paper were being addressed by other IHO Working Groups. The paper was appreciated and was an excellent opportunity to introduce the work being done around the IHO regarding the transition from INT charts to electronic charting.



NOAA Custom Chart

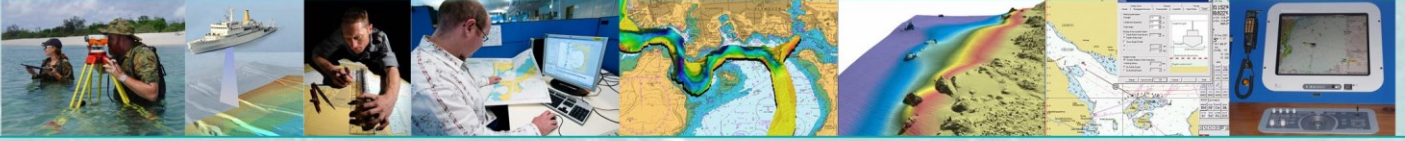
There were two excellent presentations on ENC to paper chart implementations, one from the USA, NOAA and one from Canada, CHS. Both instances demonstrated the advances that have been made in S-57 paper chart generation. While some challenges still exist, progress

in this direction has moved forward rapidly and is now being implemented in some official capacities. The presentations presented an excellent

opportunity to discuss the technology behind these systems and challenges that many may have if/when they decide to implement them.

A use case paper on the ENC derived paper chart was presented by the USA (NGA) which discussed some of the challenges that they are facing when trying to meet S-4 guidelines when automating paper charts from ENC. The paper also presented guidelines to consider including updating, scale, printing, chart elements, and other items that they considered as a "must" for them to be considered official charts. The Working Group agreed that the mandate of the Baseline Symbology Project Team was to align S-4 with the automation of paper charts from S-101 ENCs.

The WENDWG Chair presented a paper requesting the NCWG to recognize the WENDWG as the responsible body for authoring S-11 Part A, Section 300 focusing on the provision of S-100 services beyond ENC. The NCWG agreed to the proposal and intends to present the request to HSSC for further approval. Both the NCWG and WENDWG agreed that there needed to be some additional text included in the introduction of S-11 regarding the management of the document to reflect the unusual circumstance of having two WGs share some responsibility for one IHO document.



The Working Group re-elected Mikko Hovi (Finland) and Nick Rodwell (UK) as chair and vice-chair respectively. The next meeting is planned for Monaco from 12-15 November 2024 and Indonesia has volunteered to host in 2025.