

IHO File No. S3/8151 & S3/7198 & S3/3061

CIRCULAR LETTER N° 33
14 September 2020

ADOPTION OF EDITION 6.0.0 of S-44 - IHO STANDARDS FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS, EDITION 1.0.0 of S-67 - MARINERS' GUIDE TO ACCURACY OF DEPTH INFORMATION IN ELECTRONIC NAVIGATIONAL CHARTS (ENC) and EDITION 2.1.0 of S-49 - MARINERS ROUTEING GUIDES

References:

- A. IHO CL 27/2020 dated 15 July 2020 – *Call for the approval of Ed. 6.0.0 of S-44 - IHO Standards for Hydrographic Surveys, Ed. 1.0.0 of S-67 - Mariners' Guide to Accuracy of Depth Information in Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC) and Ed. 2.1.0 of S-49 - Mariners Routeing Guides*
- B. IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended - *Principles and Procedures for making changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications.*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The approval of Member States of Edition 6.0.0 of S-44 - *IHO Standards for Hydrographic Surveys*, Edition 1.0.0 of S-67 - *Mariners' Guide to Accuracy of Depth Information in Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC)* and Edition 2.1.0 of S-49 - *Mariners Routeing Guides* - was requested by IHO Circular Letter in Reference A in application of the process for the development and maintenance of technical standards (Reference B).
2. The Secretariat would like to thank the following 45 Members that replied to Reference A: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malta, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.
3. Five Member States (France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Peru, Philippines and Uruguay) offered comments in addition to their approval. These comments and the outcome of their review by the Working Groups and Project Team Chairs, HSSC Chair and Secretariat are provided in Annex A to this Circular Letter.
4. When Reference A was issued, there were 93 Member States of the IHO with three States suspended. In accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the IHO, the minimum number of affirmative votes required is 30. As a result, Edition 6.0.0 of S-44, Edition 1.0.0 of S-67 and Edition 2.1.0 of S-49 have been adopted.

5. The final versions of Edition 6.0.0 of S-44, Edition 1.0.0 of S-67 and Edition 2.1.0 of S-49 will be published on the IHO website > Publications > Standards and Specifications (<https://iho.int/en/standards-and-specifications>).

On behalf of the Secretary-General
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abri KAMPFER', written in a cursive style.

Abri KAMPFER
Director

Annex A: Members' responses to IHO CL 27/2020 and comments from the WGs/PT Chair/HSSC Chair and Secretariat

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO IHO CL 27/2020 AND COMMENTS
FROM THE WORKING GROUPS' and HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS PROJECT TEAM'S
CHAIRS, HSSC CHAIR/SECRETARIAT**

S-44, Ed. 6.0.0	IHO Standards for Hydrographic Surveys
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IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) (Vote = YES)

It should be noted that Table 1 and Table 2 in new version are considerably more complicated than previous versions.

Comments by the HSPT Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The HSPT Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Iran for their comment. This appreciation is noted and will be discussed at HSSC-12. The possibility of having a couple of virtual workshops in the near future to accompany the entry-into-force of this new Edition may be considered.

PERU (Vote = YES)

(Original in Spanish) We approve the 6th Edition version 2.0.1 and we are sure that, greater orientation and detail in the specifications, will facilitate our work.

Comments by the HSPT Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The HSPT Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Peru for their comment.

PHILIPPINES (Vote = YES)

We support for the improvement of our nautical charting and hydrographic survey system.

Comments by the HSPT Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The HSPT Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Philippines for their comments.

URUGUAY (Vote = YES)

Uruguay does endorse the draft of edition 6.0.0 of S-44. It is highly appreciated the Matrix introduction in this version of the standard as a reference table for determining quality of bathymetric surveys.

Regarding with general contents of the draft, we noticed a slight issue on page 35/46, when mentioned "Water Flow" class, its associated capital letter is improperly indicated as "T" instead "W" which is employed in the rest of the document. In the same way, for that specific example, the acronyms are incorrectly noted as "Ta1", "Ta3" and "Tb5".

Comments by the HSPT Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The HSPT Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Uruguay for these comments and relevant observations. Corrections have been applied in the final version accordingly.

S-67 Ed. 1.0.0	Mariners' Guide to Accuracy of Depth Information in Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC)
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FRANCE (Vote = YES)

See comment offered by France in Annex A to IHO CL 27/2020 (given below for ease convenience).

On the occasion of a future revision, the document could usefully be supplemented by extending the subject of CATZOC beyond ENCs, which is more and more often present on paper maps in the form of a diagram. The elements of Annex B could come in redundancy from the paper "Information on ENC Generalization, Over-Scaling and Safety Checking Functions in ECDIS" which will be presented at HSSC12 at the end of 2020.

Comments by the DQWG Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The DQWG Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank France for this reminder. As indicated in Reference A, Doc. HSSC12-05.2B "*Information on ENC Generalization, Over-Scaling and Safety Checking Functions in ECDIS*" is planned to be discussed at HSSC-12.

PERU (Vote = YES)

(Original in Spanish) We approved Edition 1 version 2 and understand that navigators must know which parts of the bathymetry in an ENC are accurate and reliable, and which parts require caution.

Comments by the DQWG Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The DQWG Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Peru for their comments.

PHILIPPINES (Vote = YES)

We support for the improvement of our nautical charting and hydrographic survey system.

Comments by the DQWG Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The DQWG Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Philippines for their comments.

URUGUAY (Vote = YES)

SOHMA considers this new Standard as a very valuable publication for the international community. Also, it will be adopted by Cartography team of SOHMA.

The standard will contribute to ease the training process for all the compilers due to the gathered information contained within it. However, it would be good to have the possibility to get a Spanish translation soon. SOHMA would like to collaborate with this task if necessary.

Comments by the DQWG Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The DQWG Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Uruguay for their comments and offer. The translation of IHO Standards into different languages is a permanent issue periodically addressed at HSSC meetings. This request is duly acknowledged and it is expected that Spanish-speaking Members will agree to combine their efforts to produce a Spanish translation.

S-49, Ed. 2.1.0	Mariners Routeing Guides
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PERU (Vote = YES)

(Original in Spanish) We appreciate as important the coordination made with IMO for the characterization of the international charts in view that they will be used in international navigation.

Comments by the NIPWG Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The NIPWG Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Peru for their comments.

PHILIPPINES (Vote = YES)

We support for the improvement of our nautical charting and hydrographic survey system.

Comments by the NIPWG Chair and HSSC Chair/Secretariat:

The NIPWG Chair/HSSC Chair/Secretariat thank Philippines for their comments.