

## Paper for Consideration by S-100WG

### S-100 roles and feature associations management process

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<b>Executive Summary:</b>	This paper outline issues encountered with the process of defining roles and feature associations in developing feature catalogues, and proposes actions needed to address the issues.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	S-100, S-99, S-201
<b>Related Projects:</b>	S-12x, S-2xx

### Introduction / Background

Over the past few months, more experience has been gained in making feature catalogues, either using the KHOA supported Feature Catalogue Builder (FCB), by manually creating new ones or modifying existing feature catalogues. With this experience gained, a gap has been identified in the need for a standardized process for defining feature associations and roles within a feature catalogue.

### Analysis/Discussion

The FCB works by utilizing already defined concepts within the IHO GI Registry. There is currently no register for managing feature associations and roles within the GI Registry, and the FCB can, in it's current configuration, therefore not be utilized for defining feature associations and roles within a feature catalogue. It should be pointed out that some feature associations and roles are available within the FCB, but these are only the ones hardcoded into the GI Registry. This configuration is not sufficient going forward, as there would be a need for someone to hard code the needed feature associations and roles into the GI Registry, for every S-100 based feature catalogue to be developed. This regime is not flexible, and will likely become a bottleneck in the development of S-100 based product specifications going forward. It should be noted that the FCB is developed and function according with all defined processes, and that the issue is not with the FCB, rather with the lack of a process to handle roles and feature associations.

Experience with S-10x and S-20x product specifications has shown that the roles and feature associations that have so far been defined, have largely been individual to the feature catalogue. It is therefore prudent to question if a new register within the GI Register makes sense, and if not another approach should be used. This other approach could be to enhance the FCB with a function to define and modify roles and feature associations within the software only, and not rely on the GI Registry for this part of the process in creating a feature catalogue.

### Conclusions

The current method for management of roles and feature associations is likely to become a development bottleneck. Furthermore, experience is showing that roles and feature associations are likely to be specific to the individual feature catalogue, and therefore do not need a management process like the FCD. It therefore makes sense to consider enhancing the FCB as the best way to mitigate this risk.

### Recommendations

1. It is recommended that a process of managing roles and feature associations during the creation of a feature catalogue be defined.

2. It is recommended that this process be defined without modifying the GI Registry.
3. Once the process is defined, it should be added to S-99.
4. The S-100 FCB needs to be improved according to the decision.

### **Action Required of S-100WG**

The S-100WG2 is invited to:

- a) Consider this paper;
- b) Take proper actions to improve the S-100 FCB according to the decision.