11th Meeting of S-100 Working Group

Wellington, New Zealand, 21 – 25 September 2026

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2026

WP 2.1.2.1 Organize, prepare and report meeting of S-100WG

High level summary:

- The 11th meeting of the IHO S-100 Working Group (S-100WG) was held from 21 to 25 September 2026 in Wellington, New Zealand, in a passive hybrid format, with side meetings of S-102PT and S-129PT held on 21 September and for half a day on 22 September, bringing together 88 participants from 24 Member States, academia/industry expert, and the IHO Secretariat.
- The meeting reviewed progress on the S-101, S-121, S-102, and S-129 Product Specifications, 12 S-100 change proposals, progress of the S-98/164 Task Group and S-100 Validation Subgroup, a range of general topics including certificate rollover and dataset naming conventions, and 10 testbed and sea trial reports from multiple regions ahead of the 2029 S-100 ECDIS carriage requirement.
- The meeting agreed to issue S-100 Edition 5.2.2 by end-2026, to establish a Task Group on certificate rollover, and to adopt GitHub for managing change proposals, and elected a new leadership team following the long-serving Chair Julia Powell (USA).

Details:

The 11th meeting of the S-100 Working Group took place from 21 to 25 September 2026 in Wellington, New Zealand, conducted in a passive hybrid format to enable both in-person and remote participation. Side meetings of the S-102 Project Team (S-102PT) and S-129 Project Team (S-129PT) were held on 21 September and for half a day on 22 September.

The meeting brought together 88 participants in total: 54 delegates representing 24 IHO Member States, 31 experts from academic and research institutions, and members of the IHO Secretariat, represented by Assistant Director Yong Baek and Geospatial Information (GI) Registry Manager Jeff Wooton.

Sub-ordinary Project Team and Project Reports

The S-101 Project Team (PT) reported on the progress of S-101 Product Specification Edition 2.1.0, which is currently under the IHO Member State approval process. As this is a revision rather than a full new edition, the changes are limited, with those affecting ECDIS confined to the associated catalogues, so the impact on ECDIS implementation and production software is expected to be minimal. The meeting noted the proposed way ahead, including work to develop an updated Work Plan of S-101PT and Maintenance Schedule for ENC, and commended the S-101PT members on the work completed, recognizing in particular the exemplary contribution of the departing S-101PT secretary, Jeff Wooton, whose efforts were fundamental to the Project Team's delivery. In line with HSSC Decision 18/50, S-101PT will be merged with the ENC Working Group (ENCWG).

For the S-121 Product Specification, the IHO Secretariat reported on the status and plans for upgrading

S-121PS Edition 2.0.0 to align with S-100 Edition 5.2.1. It was noted that the review of the draft S-121PS Edition 2.0.0 procedure will be treated as an S-100 Product Specification under the S-100 Working Group, and the Secretariat will submit the draft of S-121PS Edition 2.0.0 in early 2027 for Working Group review.

The S-102 Project Team and S-129 Project Team reported on the development of S-102PS Edition 3.1.0 and S-129PS Edition 2.1.0 respectively and both teams will submit their final drafts to the S-100 Working Group via Circular Letter for endorsement in early 2027. S-129PT also reported on the outcome of a side meeting on DOHC (Dynamic Overhead Cable) considerations for S-129PS, held in line with the guidance under HSSC18/99. The team plans to hold a dedicated meeting with the MASS Project Team in the coming months to work through this new requirement and will report on the outcome and a proposed way forward for DOHC consideration in S-129PS in 2027.

The S-98/164 Task Group and the S-100 Validation Sub-group reported on progress made since the last S-100WG meeting. In particular, the S-100 Validation Sub-group will submit the draft Edition 2.0.0 of S-158, S-158:100, and S-158:98 to the S-100 Working Group for endorsement in 2027.

S-100 Change Proposals

The meeting reviewed 12 change proposals submitted against the current S-100 Edition 5.2.1. Of these, 7 proposals covering clarifications, such as typographical errors, were agreed for inclusion in Edition 5.2.2, to be published by end-2026. The remaining proposals, involving corrections requiring more substantive impact, were deferred for inclusion in the future Edition 6.0.0.

To improve the management, monitoring, and record-keeping of S-100 change proposals, the Working Group agreed to make use of the S-100WG GitHub repository. The IHO Secretariat and S-100WG Chair will report back on the detailed implementation approach at the next meeting.

S-100 General Topics

The Working Group considered a wide range of proposals aimed at improving S-100, including dataset naming conventions, mitigation of overlapping issues, the dual fuel ENC strategy, S-128 completeness for real-time products, the Producer Code Register, an impact study, and the S-100 Explorer Task Group report. In particular, the Working Group agreed to establish a Task Group to develop a detailed specification for the certificate rollover process across the S-100 distribution chain, from data producer to end user (ECDIS), with the outcome to be reported to the next HSSC meeting.

Test Bed and Sea Trial Reports

With the S-100 ECDIS carriage requirements set to begin in 2029, this year's Working Group meeting featured a range of reports on testbed projects and IHO Sea Trial activities being carried out in various regions. Notably, Indonesia and China each reported the results of their first-time testing, including observations on the usefulness of S-100 information from a user perspective and areas for improvement. Further reports were presented on the S-100 Across the Channel ECDIS Trials from United Kingdom, S-100 Testbed activities from Australia, OEM Technical Evaluation and Implementation Feedback on S-101 Test Datasets from an OEM perspective, the S-100 Testbed Report from United States, and the KHOA S-100 Sea Trial Report from Rep. of Korea.

In addition, the IHO Secretariat reported on the structure, progress, and future plans of the IHO SECOM Service (IP-based S-100 data distribution) Test, and shared an update on related testing activities being conducted in the Asia region on this basis.

New S-100WG Leadership

Julia Powell (USA), who has led the S-100 Working Group as Chair for over ten years, stepped down from the role at the conclusion of this meeting. She will, however, continue to be part of the S-100 journey in her capacity as Chair of the IHO HSSC.

A new leadership team was elected to guide the S-100 Working Group for the next three years (2026-2029):

- **Chair:** Elizabeth Hahessy (Denmark)
- **Co-Vice Chairs:** Benjamin Hell (Sweden), Gabriela Balla (Australia)



Figure 1 New Leadership Team

Next steps:

The next meeting of the S-100 Working Group was tentatively agreed to be held in Finland in September 2027.



Figure 2 Group photo of S-100 Working Group 11th Meeting