



IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

For: HSSC WG/PT Chairs/Vice-Chairs

24 November 2023

Cc: HSSC Vice-Chair, HSSC Secretariat

HSSC Chair Letter

Outcome of S-100WG 8 relevant for the HSSC Chair Group

Dear HSSC WG/PT Chairs/Vice-Chairs

Last week our new Technical Director, John Nyberg, and I attended the S-100WG 8 meeting in Singapore. It was a very successful meeting, chaired by Julia Powell in a solid and professional manner. At the end of the meeting Julia was re-elected as Chair of the S-100WG. Liz Hahessy (DK) will continue as one of the Vice-chairs and Benjamin Hell (SE) was elected as the new Vice-Chair. Izzy Kim (ROK) has other plans, and on behalf of the HSSC Chair Group, I would like to thank Izzy once again for her involvement in the S-100WG and wish her good luck in future roles.

Since some of the outcomes of the S-100WG 8 meeting are relevant for the whole HSSC Chair Group I want to reach out to you with the following.

S-100 Edition 5.2.0

1. It was decided that a new Edition 5.2.0 of S-100 is needed before finalization of the Phase 1 S-100 Product Specifications in their first operational edition. The approval process for S-100 Edition 5.2.0 would be as follows. We aim to issue an HSSC Letter by the end of January 2024 with a mid-March endorsement deadline for HSSC Member States (MS). If endorsed, an IHO Circular Letter (CL) will subsequently be issued with a deadline for IHO MS responses at the end of May 2024, during HSSC16. If we can follow this timeline, S-100 Edition 5.2.0 could be officially published by mid-June 2024.

It should be noted that one of the changes in the Edition 5.2.0 is amended key lengths and a correction to the digital signature algorithm in S-100 Part 15, which affects all S-100 Product Specifications. This means that all Phase 1 (and also Phase 2) Product Specifications must be based on S-100 Edition 5.2.0. In principle, your WG/PT can start working on changes to your respective Product Specifications as soon as the HSSC CL is issued at the end of January next year. It is unlikely that any major changes will take place after this date.

Operational Editions of S-1xx Products, Edition 2.0.0 (for S-102 3.0.0)

2. In the margins of S-100WG 8, John, Julia, Eivind Mong (NIPWG Chair) and I discussed the applicability to conduct a full impact study in accordance with IHO Resolution 2/2007, Appendix 3, as we now move to the first operational editions of the Standards. We all know that there are no existing end users, or at least a very limited number, at this stage so a full impact study is not deemed relevant for this end-users category of stakeholders. However, after consulting with the HSSC Secretariat, we concluded that we will conduct a "light" version of an impact study



at the HSSC level as part of the HSSC endorsement of the operational editions by HSSC MS at least to address clause 3.1.2 of IHO Resolution 2/2007¹.

In order to do this, I would like you, at the WG/PT level, to assess relevant parts of Appendix 3 of IHO Resolution 2/2007 prior to the HSSC endorsement process. As a guidance, I advise you as Chairs and Vice-Chairs, together with one or two senior members of your WG/PT, to go through Appendix 3 and respond to relevant parts at this stage when we are moving from Edition 1.x.x to the first operational Edition. Particularly relevant would be to judge how prepared IHO MS are to start production of data; whether relevant software are available to produce data; and if OEMs are ready to adopt the standards. If possible you may consider submitting the result as part of your WG/PT report to HSSC 16, but if this is not possible, it must be carried out before the HSSC endorsement process, so final deadline would be mid-August 2024. The plan for HSSC endorsement of the Phase 1 package is to issue an HSSC CL in the end of August 2024, so the operational editions of the Phase 1 Product Specifications must be endorsed by respective WG mid-August the latest.

At this stage this is only relevant for the Phase 1 Product Specifications:

- S-100WG: S-98
 - S-101 PT: S-101
 - S-102 PT: S-102
 - S-129 PT: S-129
- WWNWS
 - S-124 PT: S-124
- TWCWG: S-104 and S-111
- NIPWG: S-128

[S-164 Test Data Set for S-100 and ECDIS Type Approval](#)

3. We also agreed, after consulting with Hannu Peiponen (IEC/TC80 Chair), that S-164 will not be finalized as part of the first package of Product Specifications. IEC would prefer to keep S-164 as a 1.x.x Edition as far as possible considering their work with the new Edition of the IEC ECDIS test standard 61174. The plan is to submit S-164 Edition 2.0.0 to HSSC-17 in 2025 for HSSC endorsement and then for IHO MS approval after that stage.

John, Julia, and I are happy to respond to any further questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Magnus Wallhagen'.

Magnus WALLHAGEN, Chair HSSC

¹ "This assessment should systematically include **a risk and feasibility analysis**, and an estimate of the resources required for the development **and the implementation of a new or revised standard**, including but not limited to **Member States Hydrographic Services**."