

S-123 Task Group Update

NIPWG 2023 VTC 2 (June 20, 2023)

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S-123 Task Group Updates

- Fifteen (15) task group meetings have been held to date.
- All technical feedback comments were reviewed during the task group meetings.
 - The remaining editorial feedback comments (7 pages) will be reviewed by the task group via correspondence.
- A few proposals continue to be worked on such as:
 - Remodelling of the radiocommunications complex attribute
 - This proposal will be presented by Shwu-Jing Chang using the WeatherForecastWarningArea as an example.
 - Remodelling of the GMDSSArea and InmarsatOceanRegionArea features
 - Splitting of the NAVAREA/METAREA feature into two (2) separate features

informationConfidence (1/3)

- In the DCEG, the **informationConfidence** for an **IndeterminateZone** can be defined by choosing one of the following enumerated values:
 - 1: virtuallyCertain, 2: highLikelihood, 3: mediumLikelihood, 4: lowLikelihood
- These enumerated values can be related to a specific percentage range (as described in DCEG 6.2.1.2 “Statistical confidence”) or qualifiers (as described in DCEG 6.2.1.3 “Synonyms for confidence level ranks”).
- The task group raised two (2) main concerns:
 1. A data producer may consider a coverage to be “virtuallyCertain,” but it may not correspond to the “95% and higher probability” as described in 6.2.1.2.
 2. If these percentages are kept in the DCEG, then it might become an issue of data quality, which could in turn involve the DQWG.
 - Note: The reliability of the coverage could be affected by various factors such as the weather, the environment, the sensitivity of equipment, etc.

informationConfidence (2/3)

- Further discussion within the task group raised another two (2) points:
 1. What information would be useful to the mariner?
 - Would it be useful to the mariner to know which area has “reliable” service and the intermediate area that may or may not have service?
 2. informationConfidence is used for portrayal to indicate a buffer zone.
- The task group questioned whether it is worth encoding this information.
 - Would the mariner be able to make use of this information?
 - There is also the possibility that data producers may not even populate this information due to legality issues of specifying a percentage regarding coverage reliability.
- The general statement from the task group is that there are too many variables affecting the reception of an MSI broadcast.
 - It might be best to leave it to the mariner to use their best judgement instead of leaving it to the data producers to categorize the reliability.

informationConfidence (3/3)

Question for NIPWG:

- Is it still worth encoding this information?
 - If yes, then the task group would suggest to merge DCEG 6.2.1.2 and 6.2.1.3, remove the percentages and provide better definition for qualifiers.
 - The data producer would still have the possibility of indicating the percentage in the textContent with a note to keep in mind the effects of adverse weather, etc.

Closing Remarks

- The S-123 task group continues to make progress in their work.
 - The goal is to present the change proposal at a future NIPWG meeting.
- NIPWG is invited to:
 - note this presentation and
 - take any actions as appropriate.