

Paper for Consideration by S100WG**Waterway Harmonization as it Relates to Dissemination of Marine Safety Information (MSI) and Maritime Services (MS) Development**

Submitted by:	IALA – Aids to Navigation Requirements and Management (ARM) Committee
Executive Summary:	Introduction of Harmonized Waterways as an Organizational Schema
Related Documents:	S-100, S-101, S-124, S-125, S-201
Related Projects:	

Introduction

The digitization of Marine Safety Information (MSI) and development of Maritime Services requires an organizational schema to relate information to the appropriate geographic location without referring to traditional chart numbers, edition and edition dates. The Harmonized Waterway Management concept is a proposed solution wherein a geospatially defined area is used in place of chart numbers in a hierarchical format. It is proposed that these waterways would be assigned an MRN.

Possible MRN structure can be;

urn:mrn:iho:wwy:us:atl:chba:potri

- atl for atlantic
- chba for Chesapeake Bay
- potri for Potomac River

The WWM would represent a hierarchical area defined for the entire coast of a country. The larger more generalized areas would be represented in the higher-level name spaces while finer more localized areas would be represented in the lower level name spaces. The vision is that these areas will overlap with the higher-level areas encompassing all lower level areas.

Background

As countries move towards the digitization of MSI and implementation of S-101, chart numbers are expected to lose their value (usability) in the future with user rescaling of ENC's and user defined chart bounding areas. The U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has announced the phased discontinuance of their paper chart production system. Mariners wishing to have a paper product aboard will be afforded the ability to print user defined charts from the ENC dataset.

It is envisioned that use of the WWM concept will support user defined charts as well as future ENC rescheming, and support efforts to convey a generalized location for MSI, Maritime Services, nautical publications and other usages where a simplified area identifier and locator is needed.

Action Required of S100WG

The S100WG is invited to note the proposed WWM concept.