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**CIRCULAR LETTER 37/2019**  
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## IHO S-58 EDITION 6.1.0 TEST DATA SET AVAILABILITY

### References:

- A. CL 47/2018 dated 03 October 2018 – *Adoption of Edition 6.1.0 Of IHO Publication S-58 – ENC Validation Checks.*
- B. CL 30/2019 dated 25 June 2019 – Outcome of the 11th Meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC).

Dear Hydrographer

1. Edition 6.1.0 of Publication S-58 – *ENC Validation Checks* – was published in 2018 (Reference A).
2. Edition 6.1.0 of S-58 introduced a new category of check ‘Critical Error’ in order to specify a minimum standard to which all ENC datasets must comply with S-57, Appendix B.1 – *ENC Product Specification*. In order to better support safe navigation no ENC data set should be issued by an ENC service provider for use in ECDIS if any of these errors are detected.
3. In support of the introduction of critical error checks the IHO has created a set of ENC test data that can be used to verify that ENC production systems will correctly identify all critical errors in S-58 Edition 6.1.0. These datasets are available for download from the IHO website at: [https://www.iho.int/iho\\_pubs/standard/S-58/datasets/S-58\\_datasets.htm](https://www.iho.int/iho_pubs/standard/S-58/datasets/S-58_datasets.htm)
4. Hydrographic Offices are also reminded that S-58 edition 6.1.0 will enter into force on **01 September 2019**, at which time Edition 5.0.0 will be retired. Accordingly, from 01 September 2019:
  - all new ENCs must comply with Edition 6.1.0;
  - all ENC updates and new editions must include any corrections required to ensure that the updated ENC comply with Edition 6.1.0.
5. Both Regional ENC Coordination Centres (RENCs) have confirmed their intention to follow the conformance rules contained in S-58 edition 6.1.0 and will advise their members and service providers that any new ENC cell, new edition or update containing a critical error will not be suitable for use in an ECDIS. Hydrographic Offices should note that this requirement is not retrospective, and will not impact on ENC datasets previously published.

On behalf of the Secretary-General  
Yours sincerely,

Abri KAMPFER  
Director