

IHO File No. S3/8151/ENCWG & S3/8151/HSSC

**CIRCULAR LETTER 40/2024
05 November 2024**

ADOPTION OF IHO PUBLICATIONS:

EDITION 2.0.0 OF S-66 – *FACTS ABOUT ELECTRONIC CHARTS AND CARRIAGE REQUIREMENTS*;

EDITION 4.4.0 OF S-57 APPENDIX B.1, ANNEX A – *USE OF THE OBJECT CATALOGUE FOR ENC*; and

EDITION 8.0.0 OF S-58 – *ENC VALIDATION CHECKS*

References:

- A. IHO Resolution 2/2007 - Procedures for making changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications.
- B. IHO CL 30/2024 dated 25 July 2024 – Call for the approval of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66 – *Facts about Electronic Charts and Carriage requirements*, Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A – *Use of the Object Catalogue for ENC* and Edition 8.0.0 of S-58 – *ENC Validation Checks*.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In accordance with reference A, the adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66 – *Facts about Electronic Charts and Carriage requirements*, Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A – *Use of the Object Catalogue for ENC* and Edition 8.0.0 of S-58 – *ENC Validation Checks* was proposed through the Circular Letter in Reference B.
2. The IHO Secretariat thanks the forty-three Member States who responded to Reference B: Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United Kingdom, Ukraine and United States of America.
3. All forty-three Member States supported the adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66 and Edition 8.0.0 of S-58; eight Member States submitted comments in addition to their vote. These comments are provided in Annex A to this Circular Letter with responses from the ENC Working Group Chair and IHO Secretariat.
4. Forty two Member States supported the adoption of Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A; three Member States submitted comments in addition to their vote. One objection from a Member State was received, with a comment in support of their vote. These

comments are annexed to this Circular Letter with responses from the ENC Working Group Chair and IHO Secretariat.

5. When the Reference was issued, there were 99 Member States of the IHO with two States suspended. In accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the IHO as amended, the minimum number of affirmative votes required is 32. As a result, the abovementioned proposed Editions have been adopted and are now available (English versions only) on the IHO website > Publications > Standards and Specifications (<https://iho.int/en/standards-and-specifications>).

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Nyberg', written in a cursive style.

John NYBERG
Director

Annex A: Member States' responses to IHO CL 30/2024 and comments from the ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat (*in English only*)

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO IHO CL 30/2024 AND COMMENTS
FROM THE ENCWG CHAIR and IHO SECRETARIAT**

CUBA (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66:

ENC cells and the requirements for the use of the Systems. of Information and Display in Electronic Charts (ECDIS), with a view to eliminating the differences in the ECDIS equipment supplied by vendors, by adapting these in a standardized way to allow the evaluation of the quality of the probes and their interaction with the information contained.

We propose approval of edition 2.0.0. of S-66.

Adoption of Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A:

The amendments introduced to this standard in the following sections: Vertical Datum, Horizontal Datum and Probe Datum, at the suggestion of the Hydrographic Services, contribute to better clarity of the information referring to the datums contained in the ENC's . They contribute to greater homogenization and normalization of the information contained therein, giving greater understanding of the classification of objects, taking into account the acronym and corresponding attribute, clarifying those elements that are difficult to understand for the specialists who produce said product.

We propose approval of edition 4.4.0 of S-57, Appendix B.1.

Adoption of Edition 8.0.0 of S-58:

The amendments made to the previous standard that gives rise to the new version contribute to a better understanding of the structures and elements that the objects contained in the electronic cells ENC's must have , showing the main characteristics of these objects in terms of structure and content based on in their acronyms and attributes and their relationship with the structure that these data must contain.

All these changes were made with a view to improving the verification and quality of the data obtained once the validation of all the objects contained in the ENC's electronic cells had been executed.

We propose the approval of edition 8.0.0 of S-58.

Comment by the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks Cuba for their comments.

GREECE (Vote = YES (S-66 and S-58); NO (S-57 Appendix B-1, Annex A))

Adoption of Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A:

In paragraph 2.1.8 we prefer the following wording:

In areas which include neighbouring producer nations, Hydrographic Offices should ensure no data overlap within Navigational Purposes. Where the elimination of overlapping ENC data cannot be resolved and its continued existence presents a demonstrable risk to the safety of navigation, the procedures described in IHO Resolution 1/2018 as well as in section 1.7 of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the WEND Principles should be applied.

Comment by the ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat:

The ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat thank Greece for their comment. The paragraph at clause 2.1.8 referenced by Greece was not amended as part of the changes applied in S-57 Appendix B-1, Annex A Edition 4.4.0 and therefore was not discussed within the ENCWG during the development of the new Edition. Greece is invited to submit a full change proposal to the ENCWG for consideration for the next Edition of S-57 Appendix B-1, Annex A.

INDIA (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66:

The section 11 of this document the text "Safe operation of ECDIS equipment" is duplicated, the same is to be corrected.

Adoption of Edition 8.0.0 of S-58:

The newly introduced checks N° 548c and 1551b is accepted for incorporation, the edition is recommended for approval.

Comment by the ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat:

The ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat thank India for their comments. The duplication of the text in Section 11 of S-66 Edition 2.0.0 is well noted and has been resolved as part of the resolution of the comments submitted by Italy.

ITALY (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66:

The following changes are suggested:

- Paragraph "Introduction": please report the correct link instead of "Error! Reference source not found";
- Paragraph 1.2: SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 19 and 27 are repeated twice while it is recommended to enter them only once;
- Paragraph 2.6: please modify "see clause 5.13" in "see clause 6.4";
- Paragraph 6.6: before figure 6-8 it would be useful to specify, as in the original document, the two alarm indicators: 1) Over-scale indication shown within the graphical user interface; 2) Over-scale (jail bar) pattern;
- Paragraph 7.2: in the table 7.2 for the attribute QUASOU renumber values starting from 1;
- Paragraph 7.8: please modify "To put this in perspective, table 6.1" In "To put this in perspective, table 7.5";
- Paragraph 11.1: please delete the entire paragraph as it is identical to paragraph 5.1 and partly also to paragraph 11.2;

- Before paragraph 11.3 it might be useful to add paragraph "IMO Model Training Course - Operational Use of ECDIS" described in the S-66 edition 1.1.0 .

Adoption of Edition 8.0.0 of S-58:

Check 509 - need to add footnote to bottom of page: ¹ For air obstruction light and fog detector light CATLIT must be set to 6 or 7 respectively.

Comment by the ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat:

The ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat thank Italy for their comments and have addressed these comments for inclusion in the final published Editions as follows:

S-66 Edition 2.0.0:

- Introduction: The text and link have been amended.
- Paragraph 1.2: Clause 1.2 has been slightly restructured such that excerpts from SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 19 and 27 are only quoted once.
- Paragraph 2.6: The incorrect clause reference has been corrected.
- Paragraph 6.6: The text related to the two types of overscale indications in ECDIS as included in Edition 1.1.0 of S-66 has been added immediately before Figure 6-8.
- Paragraph 11.2: The listed enumerate code values for the attribute QUASOU in Table 7-2 have been corrected to start at 1.
- Paragraph 11.1: The repeated introductory paragraphs have been removed. A reference to clause 5.1 – *Is there a need for ECDIS training?* has been included; and a similar reference back to Section 11 has been added at the end of clause 5.1.
- Before paragraph 11.3: A new clause 11.3 "IMO Model Training Course - *Operational Use of ECDIS*" has been added as included in Edition 1.1.0 of S-66. The former clause 11.3 "Certification of ECDIS education" has been renumbered as clause 11.4.

S-58 Edition 8.0.0:

- The missing footnote associated with Check 509 has been added.

KENYA (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A:

Noted updated SCAMIN step values in table 2.5.

Encoding Combination for different categories of bridges.

Adoption of Edition 8.0.0 of S-58:

Noted DELETED items on 1669, 1686, 1687 and 1769.

Comment by the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks Kenya for their comments.

NETHERLANDS (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66:

Three editorial suggestions were made by separate e-mail as follows:

- Page 1 contains an erroneous link **Error! Reference source not found.**

- On page 9, one sentence stops rather abruptly (see the blue shaded part in the screenshot below). The same text is seen in 4.1, where it seems to go well.

MSC.1/Circ.1503 (as amended) ECDIS – Guidance for Good Practice

The mandatory carriage of ECDIS, as required by SOLAS regulation V/19.2.10, was subject to a staged entry into force between 1 July 2012 and 1 July 2018. As per SOLAS regulations V/18 and V/19, for a ship to use ECDIS to meet the chart carriage requirements of SOLAS, the ECDIS equipment must conform to the relevant IMO performance standards. ECDIS units on board are required to comply with one of two performance standards (either IMO resolution A.817(19), as amended; or resolution MSC.232(82)), depending on the date of their installation.

Essentially, where an ECDIS is being used to meet the chart carriage requirements of SOLAS, it must:

- i. be type-approved;
- ii. use up to date electronic navigational charts (ENC);
- iii. be maintained so as to be compatible with the latest applicable International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) standards; and
- iv. have adequate, independent back-up arrangements in place.

IMO MSC.1/Circ.1503 (as amended) states, 'ECDIS that is not updated to the latest version of the IHO Standards may not meet the chart carriage requirements as set out in SOLAS regulation V/19.2.1.4'.

The changes introduced in the latest versions of the IHO standards will assist Port State control (PSC) inspectors in determining if a vessel is complying with the regulations from SOLAS Chapter V. The IHO maintains a list of the current IHO standards in force on its website – <https://iho.int/en/standards-in-force> (English); and <https://iho.int/fr/normes-en-vigueur> (French). **The ENCs (and any RNCs) used for the intended voyage are up to date; and**

Relevant ap independent for ECDIS specify the requirements for adequate independent regulation in case of ECDIS failure. Such arrangements include:

- On page 59, the number of the figure doesn't correspond to the chapter number (9-3 should be 8-3)?

Comment by the ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat:

The ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat thank the Netherlands for their comments and have addressed these comments for inclusion in the final published Editions as follows:

- Introduction: The text and link have been amended (see also comment from Italy).
- Page 9: The highlighted text included in the screenshot above was included in error and has been removed.
- Page 59: The incorrect Figure reference has been corrected.

NEW ZEALAND (Vote = YES)

New Zealand congratulates the HSSC and relevant WGs on their work in producing new Editions of these important Standards.

Comment by the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks New Zealand for their comment.

NIGERIA (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-66:

It gives clear guidance on ENCs and also focuses on ENC Cyber Security.

Adoption of Edition 4.4.0 of S-57 Appendix B.1, Annex A:

It provides improved encoding guidance.

Comment by the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks Nigeria for their comments.

UNITED KINGDOM (Vote = YES)

Adoption of Edition 8.0.0 of S-58:

The UK endorses the publication of S-58 version 8 including the late amendments made to the upgrading of checks 99-101 from error to critical, as agreed at a meeting of the S-58 Sub-Group and endorsed by IHO secretariat on 28.08.24.

Comment by the ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat:

The ENCWG Chair and IHO Secretariat thank the United Kingdom for their comment. The late amendments referred to by the United Kingdom to update the classification of Checks 99-101 from Error to Critical were further approved by the ENCWG9 meeting (08-10 October 2024) and have therefore been included in the final published Edition 8.0.0 of S-58.