

Information Paper for Consideration by HSSC-12

Considering subscription service versus Notice to Mariners

Submitted by:	Canada
Executive Summary:	Canada submits the following information paper to summarize our consideration of using a subscription based service to provide updates to navigational products, instead of using Notices to Mariners.
Related Documents:	Refer to HSSC 11-05.1F S100 based Products Cloud Distribution
Related Projects:	Direct paper chart output from Electronic Navigational Charts

Introduction / Background

As the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) moves towards the idea of deriving paper navigational charts from Electronic Navigational Charts, we should also consider modernizing our methods and processes to update our navigational products which are consistent with the way modern businesses operate (i.e. streaming services). Updating our navigational products with Notice to Mariners is a multi-step process, what if we could provide directly to our clients continuously updated products instead? Canada is considering this option – enabling staff we have currently writing Notice to Mariners and updating products to focus instead on just updating the products.

Analysis/Discussion

Member States are looking to streamline our production processes so that we can more efficiently create and update navigational products for mariners.

Canada is considering providing continuously updated products to mariners based on the mariner's chosen subscription. For example, if a mariner chooses to purchase a product with a subscription service, all critical updates and new editions would be pushed to the mariner as they are completed.

This would decrease efforts on behalf of the mariner for updating their product (checking for Notice to Mariners and updating their product, checking for new editions and purchasing an updated product), and decrease efforts for those in the hydrographic office as they can focus strictly on updating products without writing Notice to Mariner text.

For Hydrographic Offices, the Notice to Mariner process to update navigational charts requires 3 steps:

1. The source to be assessed against existing navigational products
2. Notice to Mariner text describing changes to be written, checked and published for all navigational products
3. All navigational products to be updated with changes, checked and released

For Hydrographic Offices the subscription based process to update navigational charts requires only 2 steps:

1. The source to be assessed against existing navigational products
2. All navigational products to be updated with changes, checked and released

Further evaluation of the business case and options for subscription needs to be completed.

Conclusions

Modernizing the method of providing updates will allow for efficiencies for the mariner and the hydrographic offices if critical updates and new editions can be pushed to mariners based on their chosen subscription.

Recommendations

Recommend that further discussions on this topic occurs within HSSC.

Justification and Impacts

Justification for this proposal is to modernize our updating process so that it is more efficient for hydrographic offices and our clients.

Action Required of HSSC

The HSSC invited to:

- a. Note this paper.
- b. Direct NIPWG to continue to discuss various models for the delivery of update information.
- c. Take any further steps HSSC feels are appropriate.