

**5th CSPCWG MEETING  
Sydney, 18-21 November 2008**

**Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG**

**Sharing experience of marine incidents and possible impacts for charts**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Chairman
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	An encouragement to share lessons and experiences which may provide the opportunity and potential to enhance charts.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	CHRIS19-5.1B.
<b>Related Projects:</b>	None.

**Introduction / Background**

The referenced CHRIS paper (presented Nov 2007) provided an example where a national maritime safety agency had made recommendations arising out of a maritime incident. In this case, a specific action was placed upon a MS to take forward developments within the IHO community through CHRIS and its technical Working Groups.

Through investigation of maritime incidents, there are opportunities to review whether nautical products, processes or data could be enhanced for the benefit of the chart user. That is, what possible impacts might there be for charts.

**Analysis / Discussion**

In UK, the Maritime Accident Investigation Board (MAIB) conducts investigations within its remit and makes recommendations. Its activities and reports are available at [www.maib.gov.uk](http://www.maib.gov.uk). The UK's Merchant Shipping Accident Reporting and Investigation Regulations 2005 state that:

*the sole objective of the investigation of an accident ...shall be the prevention of future accidents through the ascertainment of its causes and circumstances.*

One such incident involved the M/V Octopus which grounded on a rocky ridge that was uncharted. The incident highlighted an issue concerning the appropriate depiction of data quality information and the different techniques used in paper and electronic charts. In this case, a very old lead-line survey, dated 1850, was used to compile the paper chart, portrayed with sparse sounding density and a source diagram. However, the vector chart in use on ECS did not contain any data quality information. The vessel, effectively deep draft, was operating in an area typically used only by smaller craft. A modern survey had been conducted but stopped just short of the shoal area. Recommendations from the investigation included the importance of providing data quality information in ENC. UKHO has for some time been expending significant resource in populating the CATZOC attribute in its ENC; the results of this investigation provide further impetus and relevance for this programme of work.

CHRIS19 also concluded that an IHO CL should be issued regarding the need for and the use of CATZOC (CL120/07 refers). Additionally, TSMAD took the opportunity to include the issue within its development of S101, including a user and equipment manufacturer workshop (March 2008) that looked at a range of S101 / ENC related issues. Other incidents relating to source data quality have been discussed in the DQWG forum whose mandate was extended to include consideration of CATZOC.

## **Conclusions**

The results of investigations into marine incidents by national safety agencies should be carefully scrutinised to ensure that any lessons are well learnt and considered for inclusion in charting procedures, processes and products, as appropriate.

Additionally, it is likely that any resultant actions will be applicable for consideration by all chart-producing HOs.

## **Recommendations**

WG members are encouraged to:

- Actively review their own national sources and
- Bring to the attention of the WG (or whichever is the appropriate body) issues for consideration. (Using the Chairman or Secretary of CSPCWG as point of contact.)

## **Justification and Impacts**

The recommendations provide potential benefit through a process of continuous improvement in charts.

Additionally, the issue of liability in nautical products is a continuing one. Demonstrating that specific HO actions have been taken arising from the recommendations of a safety agency is beneficial in reducing risk and in supporting safety at sea.

Any review or recommendation arising out of a marine incident should be progressed expeditiously; implying a 'high' priority.

## **Action required of CSPCWG**

The CSPCWG is invited to discuss this paper and endorse its recommendations.