GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS AND NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHERS

Second Edition
Version 2.0.0 - March 2017

Guidance for Educational and Training Programmes

These guidelines are to be used by educational and training organizations for the preparation of submissions of programmes in hydrographic surveying or nautical charting against the IHO Publications S-5A/B and S-8A/B Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers.

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Comments arising from the experience gained in the application of the guidance are welcome. They should be addressed to the Chairman of the International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) at the above address. This document is published periodically. Please check with IHO for the latest edition, including current amendments.
ABSTRACT

All components of the hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography professions face challenges as how best to ensure the continuance of high standards and how best to ensure the continuation of best practices world-wide based on minimum standards of competence. In order to achieve these objectives, three international organizations (FIG, IHO and ICA) have developed Standards of Competence that institutions or professional bodies may adopt for their educational/training programmes and competency schemes.

Standards indicate the minimum degree of knowledge considered necessary for hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers to meet national and international hydrographic and charting requirements and the diverse needs of industry.

The standards developed are known as S-5 describing the competencies for hydrographic surveyors and S-8 describing the competencies for nautical cartographers.

Both Standards recognize two levels of programme. Category "A" programmes introduce content and learning outcomes primarily from the underlying principles level. Category "B" programmes introduce them primarily from a practical level.

The intention is that a Category "A" qualified individual, with appropriate experience, would be a senior professional in their chosen area of activity (government, industry, academia). Category "B" qualified individuals, with appropriate experience, would be technical professionals preparing and delivering products and services to meet specifications and outcomes.
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<td>CCP</td>
<td>Comprehensive Cartographic Project</td>
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<td>Complex Final Cartographic Project</td>
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<td>Hydrographic science subjects</td>
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<td>IBSC</td>
<td>International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers</td>
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<td>ICA</td>
<td>International Cartographic Association</td>
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<td>IHO</td>
<td>International Hydrographic Organization</td>
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<td>ILO</td>
<td>Intended Learning Outcome</td>
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<td>NFP</td>
<td>National Focal Point</td>
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<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Practicals (fieldwork and/or laboratories)</td>
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<td>SG</td>
<td>Self-guided exercises (or student’s personal independent work)</td>
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<td>T</td>
<td>Theoretical (theory through lectures)</td>
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<td>WG</td>
<td>Working Group</td>
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1. **PREFACE**

**Historical development of the Standards:** During the International Congress of Surveyors (FIG) at Wiesbaden in 1971, a Working Group (WG) was formed by Commission IV (Hydrography) to develop International Standards of Competence within the profession of surveying at sea. In 1972, during the International Hydrographic Conference in Monaco, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) set up a working group for the compilation of training programmes in Hydrography conducted by Member States. In 1974, at the XIV FIG Congress in Washington, it was resolved that the FIG and IHO working groups combine to study and modify the Report of the FIG working group on Educational Standards.

The Report of the joint FIG-IHO WG was accepted by the two parent bodies at their respective conferences in 1977. In consequence of similar resolutions passed at these conferences an FIG/IHO International Advisory Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors (the Board) was formed.

The Board met annually and compiled and regularly updated "Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors" (the Standards). The intention of the Board in preparing these Standards was to provide guidance whereby individual surveyors may be trained and qualified in accordance with internationally accepted levels of competence.

**Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers:** At the IHO Second Extraordinary Conference in March 2000 the development of a set of Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers was approved. It was agreed that the Board would be the appropriate body to lead the preparation of these Standards, with the contribution of the International Cartographic Association (ICA).

The Board therefore changed its name to the FIG/IHO/ICA International Advisory Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers. The Board comprises ten (10) Members representing the three parent organizations: FIG (4); IHO (4); and ICA (2). The Secretariat is provided by the IHO Secretariat. In 2009 the name of the Board was changed to FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC).

**Standards Development:** The Standards are known as S-5 describing the competencies for hydrographic surveyors and S-8 describing the competencies for nautical cartographers. They indicate the minimum degree of knowledge and experience considered necessary for hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers, and provide a set of programme outlines against which the Board may evaluate programmes submitted for recognition. In 2008 the recognition period of programmes which had been ten (10) years was reduced to six (6) years, with a transitional period for the existing programmes.

Both Standards recognize two levels of programme: Category "A" and Category "B". In the hydrographic community, Category "A" programmes offer levels of comprehensive and broad-based knowledge in all aspects of the theory and practice of hydrography and nautical cartography. Category "B" programmes provide a level of practical comprehension, along with the essential theoretical background, necessary for individuals to carry out the various hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography tasks.

Earlier editions of the Standards were structured so that Category "B" programmes provided technical education to support a set of fundamental and practical competencies. Initially, Category "A" educational programmes included all Category "B" competencies plus additional detailed-level competencies. This meant that Category "B" was a subset of Category "A".

Since its inception the Board has developed and published eleven (11) editions of the S-5 and three (3) editions of the S-8. These editions reflect the significant scientific and technological developments in the fields of hydrography and cartography, and include considerable improvements in the submission, delivery and review procedures of the programmes. In 2011, a fee was introduced for all submissions.

**Separation of Category "A" and Category "B":** It became evident to the IBSC that there were influencing factors that brought to the fore a number of imperatives for change in the way hydrographic surveyors and
nautical cartographers are educated. To adapt to these new challenges, methodologies, equipment and software, the Board agreed on the separation of Category "A" and Category "B" requirements and a future separate path of development for each category.

**Development of New Standards:** The motivation behind the separation of the Category "A" and Category "B" requirements and the intended outcome of Category "A" and Category "B" education/training is as follows:

A Category "A" programme will introduce subjects from the beginning at the underlying principles level. A Category "B" programme will introduce subjects from a practical level. According to the above framework the Category "B" Standard is aimed at the basic educational and training requirements for hydrographic technicians and hydrographic surveyors (S-5), and nautical cartographers (S-8). The Category "A" Standard is aimed at the theoretical educational and foundational background necessary for hydrographic surveyors/nautical cartographers in-charge and hydrographic/cartographic managers who will develop specifications for surveys and charts, establish quality control and quality assurance systems and respond to the specific requirements of a full range of hydrographic and/or cartographic projects.

For both Category "A" and Category "B" Standards, the ability to conduct or operate hydrographic surveys in the field or utilize hydrographic and/or cartographic databases to compile and produce charts are essential competencies, and thus a key part of education and training through the necessity of field and applied work (practical exercises and final project).

The educational process itself is in turn influenced by changing technological and methodological imperatives. Connectivity and the introduction of so-called e-learning methods and blended learning techniques, have naturally attracted the attention of the professional community. Another relevant issue is the educational approach in the development of the standards relating to the principles of the style in which the requirements are presented. The IBSC adopted the concept and principles of constructive alignment that are used in most academic institutions and are documented in educational texts, for example Biggs and Tang, Teaching for Quality Learning at University, Open University Press (3rd Edition, 2007). The Standards describe Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO’s) using verbs that are detailed under Bloom's taxonomy. In principle, an institution will evaluate students to ensure that they have achieved each learning outcome.

The separation of Category "A" and Category "B" Standards in addition to the adoption of constructive alignment approach was approved in 2012.

Options have been removed from the Standards. The philosophy of the Standards is to develop a hydrographer or nautical cartographer who can work with competence across the full spectrum of the profession. Therefore, the core content within the previous options is considered necessary for all hydrographers and nautical cartographers and can no longer be considered optional. In defining competencies in terms of ILO’s, the opportunity exists for institutions to focus attention on specific issues while adhering to competencies and associated content as described in the Standards. Thus, while core competencies are retained, institutions can offer unique programmes within this framework, directed towards specific needs.

**Synopsis:** All components of the hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography professions face challenges as to how best to ensure the continuance of the high standards and how best to ensure the continuation of world-wide best practices based on minimum standards of competence. The IBSC believes that the present editions of the Standards will serve the purpose and will deliver authoritative guidance to the pertinent institutions around the world to prepare, submit and deliver programmes that will be to the benefit of the international hydrographic community.
2. DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

For purposes of recognition, a programme is a complete schedule of study, practical exercises and final project that leads to graduation, including all learning outcomes and content defined in the standards. For purposes of delivery and assessment, a programme will typically be broken down into modules. The term module will be used hereafter to describe a delivery component.

2.1 Categories of Programmes and Schemes

Categories of programmes and schemes for hydrographic and cartographic personnel are defined with respect to the theoretical background and working knowledge of those who successfully graduate from such programmes. The following programmes and schemes are eligible for international recognition by the FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC:

2.1.1 Category "A" Programmes:
A programme which provides a comprehensive and broad-based knowledge in all aspects of the theory and practice of hydrography, nautical cartography and allied disciplines for individuals who will practice analytical reasoning, decision making and development of solutions to non-routine problems.

2.1.2 Category "B" Programmes:
A programme which provides a practical comprehension of hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography for individuals with the skill to carry out the various hydrographic surveying and cartography tasks.

2.1.3 Schemes for Professional Certification:
A regional or national Scheme for the review, assessment and professional certification of an individual to ensure that they possess the relevant and up to date competencies to perform the role of a hydrographic surveyor or nautical cartographer at the appropriate level. The term “Scheme” will be used to differentiate professional certification from educational programmes.

2.2 Recognition of Programmes and Schemes

2.2.1 Recognition:
The Board may grant recognition for programmes meeting the S-5A/B or S-8A/B Standards of Competence. The Board may also grant recognition for schemes, which follow the guidelines described hereafter, and referring in their review assessment process to the S-5A/B and/or S-8A/B Standards of Competence.

2.2.2 Period of Recognition:
Programme or Scheme recognition remains valid for six (6) years, after which a new submission is required. The Board does not grant retrospective recognition to any Programme or Scheme.

2.2.3 Recognition of Individuals:
The Board does not grant recognition to individuals.

2.2.4 Professional certification:
The Board may grant recognition to National or Regional Schemes for professional/competency certification of individuals.

2.3 Classes of Subjects

2.3.1 Basic Subjects
These are the subjects underlying all aspects of hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography. They contain the knowledge necessary for understanding the general principles of hydrography and cartography, including mathematics, statistics, information communication technologies, physics, earth sciences, nautical science and meteorology, as applicable.

2.3.2 Essential Subjects for S-5B and S-8B
These subjects are considered essential for all hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers and together with the basic subjects, form the core of the academic syllabus within the S-5B and S-8B Standards.

2.3.3 Foundation Science Subjects for S-5A and S-8A
These subjects provide a detailed knowledge of the underlying principles that support hydrography and nautical cartography. These are common to other science fields such as geomatics or marine science, and contribute to the core of hydrography and nautical cartography.

2.3.4 Hydrographic Science and Cartography Science Subjects for S-5A and S-8A
These subjects are considered essential for all hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers respectively at the Category "A" level. When combined with Foundation Science knowledge they constitute a comprehensive knowledge of hydrography or nautical cartography.

2.4 Exemptions

2.4.1 Within any submission, the Board will consider cases when an institution intends not to deliver a particular subject/topic/element within Basic or Foundation Science subjects to some or all of the students. No exemptions are permitted from Essential (S-5B/S-8B) or Hydrographic Science (S-5A) or Cartography Science (S-8A) subjects.

2.4.2 Exemptions may be granted from Basic or Foundation Science subjects, topics, or elements when entry requirements for a programme completely cover their content and learning outcomes. The list of elements, as indicated in the Standards, must be evidenced to have been completely covered by prior knowledge of students. Claims for exemptions must clearly describe how the student’s prior learning is assessed and validated. If an entry examination process is employed to determine exemptions, it must demonstrate the student’s competence in the subjects/topics/elements to be exempted.

2.5 Elective Modules
To be recognized against the Standards, a programme must demonstrate that, independently of the student choice of elective modules, all of the S-5A/B or S-8A/B elements are covered by the common programme syllabus.

2.6 Level of Knowledge
Bloom’s taxonomy has been applied to describe each intended learning outcome of the Standards and the associated verbs are an indication of the expected level of knowledge. One of the three following levels of knowledge is associated with each element of the S-5A/B and S-8A/B.

2.6.1 Basic - Basic knowledge of the subject provides familiarity with the concepts. Active verbs (indicating recall, recognition and comprehension of materials) associated with learning outcomes are: define, identify, describe, explain, differentiate, predict.

2.6.2 Intermediate - Knowledge of the subject as far as theory and principles are concerned, sufficient to enable their application in practice in all common hydrographic and nautical cartography tasks. Active verbs (indicating application and analysis) associated with learning outcomes are: apply, use, calculate, solve,
classify, analyze.

2.6.3 Advanced - Thorough knowledge of the subject in all its aspects to enable its application in all hydrographic and nautical cartography activities including the most difficult areas. Active verbs (indicating synthesis and evaluation) associated with learning outcomes are: evaluate, select, design, specify, plan, create.

*Category "B" programmes are intended to deliver Basic and Intermediate levels of knowledge and Category "A" programmes are intended to deliver Basic, Intermediate and Advanced levels of knowledge.*

3. **TIME FRAMES**

3.1 **Maximum Duration of Programmes**

The time frame over which an individual studies towards a recognized programme cannot be more than five (5) years for a Category "B" Programme and no more than six (6) years for a Category "A" Programme.

3.2 **Minimum Duration of Programmes**

The minimum duration of Programmes must be sufficient to allow students to absorb the knowledge through the lectures, tutorials, self-study, practical exercises and the final project. In the experience of the Board, to achieve the above, for a programme (without exemptions sought) delivered full-time in a continuous manner an expected minimum time frame is:

3.2.1 At Category "B", twenty four (24) weeks, including the final project.

3.2.2 At Category "A", forty (40) weeks, including the final project.

4. **PRACTICAL EXERCISES AND FINAL PROJECT**

Because hydrography and nautical cartography are applied disciplines, every student undertaking a Category "A" or Category "B" Programme is expected to receive hands-on experience under direct supervision of the instructors. This experience should form an important part of the student's assessment, and should be considered in two parts, practical exercises and a final project.

4.1 **Practical Exercises**

Both Category "A" and Category "B" Programmes should contain practical hydrographic surveying or nautical charting exercises related to modules. These should include, for example: experiments, exercises, laboratory work and fieldwork designed to complement the theory component.

4.2 **Final Project (CFFP, CCP, CMFP and CFCP)**

Any qualifying programme should also include a minimum period of at least four (4) weeks devoted to a supervised comprehensive final project. These projects should reflect the level of the overall knowledge outlined in the programme, and a full report should be compiled by students. Assessment of intended learning outcomes associated to this project is an important factor and an evaluation scheme for the final project must consider alignment for individual students.

The *Comprehensive Final Field Project (CFFP)* for a Category "B" hydrographic surveying programme will exercise the skills of the students to carry out the various hydrographic surveying tasks.
The Comprehensive Cartographic Project (CCP) for a Category "B" nautical charting programme will exercise the skills of the students to carry out the various nautical charting tasks.

For students of a S-5 Category "A" Programme, a Complex Multi-disciplinary Field Project (CMFP) is required, which will include analytical reasoning, decision making and development of solutions to non-routine problems.

For students of a S-8 Category "A" Programme, a Complex Final Cartographic Project (CFCP) is required, which will include analytical reasoning, decision making and development of solutions to non-routine problems.

GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICAL EXERCISES AND FINAL PROJECT

1. The (educational) purpose of the practical exercises and field training project(s), for both Category "A" and Category "B", is to give every student experience in performing as many hydrographic and nautical charting tasks as possible. For example, levelling, tide gauge installation, shore lining, multi-beam surveying, spatial data processing, spatial data evaluation and processing, composition, generalization, chart production and reproduction, etc.

2. Practical exercises associated with the educational modules should occur throughout the programme of study.

3. The final project should occur at the end of the programme, so that knowledge gained in earlier work can be put into practice, and the practical limitations involved in field and office operations experienced by the student. Final projects must reflect the level of knowledge outlined in the programme syllabus.

4. Reference material should be available to students, including an archive of case study material, equipment and costing information in order to allow students to plan and design the survey/nautical chart.

5. Consideration should be given to involving experienced hydrographers and nautical cartographers, and, when necessary, equipment provided by external agencies in the final project, in order to supplement the resources of the training institution.

6. Students should prepare a complete final project report and associated survey or nautical charting deliverables. The final project report must form part of the performance assessment for students.

5. FIELD AND OFFICE EXPERIENCE

The Board acknowledges that work experience in the field or office is an essential component of individual competence. The Board encourages the development of professional certification or individual recognition schemes by regional or national authorities such as Hydrographic Offices and/or professional societies and provides a process described in Section 6 below, for the international recognition of these schemes.

6. PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION OR INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION SCHEMES

The Board does not provide recognition to individuals directly. It does however seek to recognize formal systems and schemes that review and assess individuals’ experience in order to provide them with professional certification or individual recognition of their Competency. These Schemes offer to monitor and assess
individuals at regular intervals and to register them in a formal system so that an individual may gain professional certification or individual recognition at a defined level of competency which may include Category "A" and Category "B".

6.1 Background, Board Philosophy and Process Concerning Schemes for Professional Certification of Individual Recognition

6.1.1 In issuing the guidelines the IBSC fully recognizes and anticipates dialogue with national bodies seeking such recognition as the guidelines are developed to a level of maturity acceptable internationally. In this sense, the guidelines are issued in this document without prejudice.

6.1.2 The underpinning philosophy of the work of the Board in issuing Standards of Competence is that competence equals knowledge plus experience, and must be demonstrated. Thus, upon successful achievement by any individual of a Category "A" or a Category "B" Programme, a competency certification within any Scheme consists of both successful completion of a programme of study which addresses the topics within the relevant Standard and a satisfactory period of relevant experience during which competence has been demonstrated. In addition, the IBSC notes that hydrographic technology is constantly advancing and that, in order to maintain competence, an individual must pursue continuing professional training and education. Consequently national organizations and academic institutions may recognize and/or certify individuals. Professional certification of individual recognition should be based on completion of:

1. A programme as outlined in sub-section 2.1;
2. Experience, as outlined in section 5;
3. A methodology to demonstrate and document competencies;
4. Continuing professional education and training.

6.1.3 Submissions to the Board must be written in the English language and should demonstrate the ability to monitor and assess individuals at the Category "A" and/or Category "B" specified competency level.

6.1.4 The Board shall approve the final wording on the Certificate awarded by the Scheme to individuals.

6.1.5 The Board declares that in publishing these Guidelines it is not its intention to override or challenge any legal or procedural processes imposed upon the Scheme by government or law.

6.1.6 The Board shall expect the following elements in a national or regional Scheme submitted for recognition.

6.2 Guidelines for National and Regional Schemes Submitted for Recognition

6.2.1 The Board shall normally recognize only one Scheme per country or identifiable region for the Standards and thus, a submission must clearly describe its authority and geographic area. It may include endorsements from the appropriate NFP of the Scheme submitted. It may also include, where appropriate, the endorsement of academic institutions, government bodies and professional associations. The Board shall not arbitrate between Schemes within one jurisdiction.

6.2.2 An individual certified by the submitting Scheme as having met the levels of Category "A" or "B" must have completed a recognized Category "A" or "B" Programme. It is required that the submitted Scheme shall describe in detail how the professional certification or individual recognition process functions. Where prior learning and experience are taken into account within a Scheme the processes undertaken by the accrediting body must be fully described and justified.

6.2.3 The Board shall expect adherence to its currently issued Standard(s) and shall expect that a Scheme will take into account the currency (or validity) of an individual’s experience. Currency will be clearer if the individual has recently satisfied a programme recognized by the Board and has also satisfied the experience
minima. Where the certification or process includes vocational training, a full detailed description is required by the Board.

6.2.4 The Scheme should clearly articulate processes and sub-Schemes of Continuing Professional Development/Education (CPD) and show where and how these build relevant units for professional certification or individual recognition. Clear reference shall be made to the current content of the Standards to enable the Board to assess that the processes of CPD adopted provide relevant currency between Editions of the Standards for those individuals who originally certified or accredited against earlier Editions of the Standards.

6.2.5 The process whereby an individual can enter the Scheme should be described in detail. Processes for application should be detailed, including all examples of documentation used. The Board considers that a Scheme should include a degree of examination for entry which might include all or some of the following: interview, oral or written examination with recording of the process being retained to ensure objectivity. Examples of the process using an individual’s work and the records of the reviewers are to be submitted as part of the application process.

6.2.6 It is essential that an individual has recourse to an independent process of appeal to any decision taken by the Panel which administers the entry process into a Scheme. This process of appeal will not be to the IBSC. Appeals must be resolved satisfactorily at the national or regional level in accordance with standards of due process and objectivity. The Board’s interest is in assessing the efficiency of such a process. Thus, the Board will expect the submitting Scheme to fully describe its adopted appeals process.

6.2.7 The process whereby an individual can enter the Scheme should be described in detail. Processes for application should be detailed, including all examples of documentation used. The Board considers that a Scheme should include a degree of examination for entry which might include all or some of the following: interview, oral or written examination with recording of the process being retained to ensure objectivity. Examples of the process using an individual’s work and the records of the reviewers are to be submitted as part of the application process.

6.2.8 The processes of the Scheme shall include clear record-keeping that details all processes adopted: records of decision, timing, appeals, reasoning, forms and register, follow up processes for assessing currency (validity) etc. These should be comprehensively detailed in the submission.

6.2.9 The Scheme should advise the Board if there are other Schemes within its area of jurisdiction and detail how its own status has been defined and agreed in regard to those Schemes. It should also detail its communication processes with such Schemes with particular detail on the method it adopts to communicate and share its findings, and how any differences or ambiguities are resolved. In particular it should describe how it deals with individuals making multiple applications, and whether there is a degree of harmonization, standardization of processes and reciprocity.

6.2.10 The Scheme should publish its Rules and Processes together with its critical dates. This shall be kept current and may be achieved by way of a website. Currency will ensure publication of relevant Rules and Processes before critical dates on which they impact.

6.2.11 A Scheme can operate in the national language but see 6.1.3 above for the Board’s language requirement for submission documentation.

6.2.12 The Board reserves the right to inspect specific Scheme documents, such as the Register of Individuals, where it feels this is necessary to aid it in its own recognition assessment process.

6.2.13 A Scheme might, within its own processes, distinguish different levels of competency. Where these exist they should be fully described; the Board will look for detailed cross-referencing to its own Standards, and an explanation as to how such processes contribute to the overall system and ongoing recognition of an individual’s competence.
6.2.14 A Scheme might include an overall set of competencies as well as subsets based on topics such as port surveying, bathymetry, shore-lining etc. Where these exist they should be fully described, and the Board will look for detailed cross-referencing to the Standards and an explanation as to how such processes contribute to the overall system of professional certification or individual recognition.

6.2.15 Where a submission considers it cannot meet the Guidelines of the Board due to government imposed procedures or legal requirements, the Board will expect a fully detailed explanation sufficient for the Board to take them into account during its deliberations.

6.2.16 The Board shall look to the comprehensiveness of submitted Schemes and completeness of documentation including, where relevant, documents which authenticate claims made in the submission and reserves the right to seek any clarifying documentation or explanation it needs to assist in its process of review.

6.3 Statement to be Included in the Scheme’s Certificate

6.3.1 Schemes providing a professional certification or individual recognition process, which has been recognized as outlined in sub-section 6.2, shall be required to issue successful candidates with a certificate of the successful assessment of their professional competencies. Such a certificate may acknowledge that the Scheme has received the Board’s recognition, specifying the level of that recognition. The certificate issued by the Board shall include text similar to the following example:

“This Assessment Scheme has been recognized as meeting the requirements for professional certification or individual recognition in the FIG/IHO/ICA Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors or Nautical Cartographers”.

6.3.2 The submitted Scheme should include examples of its certificates for all levels awarded by the Scheme. An example of the type of text used by a Scheme on its certificate to an individual follows:

"Having completed a Category "A"("B") programme recognized by the IBSC against the S-5A/B or S-8A/B Edition NN.N.N of the Standards of Competence for Category "A/B" Hydrographic Surveyors or Nautical Cartographers and, having been successfully assessed by the procedures recognized by the IBSC, the … institution …… grants …(name)…………….the Hydrographic Surveyor or Nautical Cartographer Category "A"("B") certificate of programme completion”

7. PROCEDURES FOR RECOGNITION OF PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES

7.1 Documentation to be submitted

See ANNEX: S-5A/B and S-8A/B Checklist for Submitting Institutions. The checklist will assist the submitting institution in ensuring all documentation is included.

It is the experience of the Board that a well-prepared submission is one of clarity with detailed cross referencing of the submitted programme syllabus to the content and learning outcomes provided in the standards.

See ANNEX for process diagrams. Giving an overview of both the timeline for submission and recognition process of the Board, the following flow diagrams have also been included in the ANNEX:

- Application Process Flow Diagram
- Procedure for Recognition of Programmes Flow Diagram

THE AIM AND SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME SHOULD BE CLEARLY STATED AND THE
PROGRAMME STRUCTURE DEFINED IN THIS CONTEXT.

It is important that the submission is comprehensive and adequately documented to reflect the purpose of the programme and is not simply a copy of the programme texts.

In summary, the preferred submissions to review are those that are clear, completely cross-related to the Standards, include relevant photographs, and are submitted with explanations of any deviations. The Board recognizes that model pedagogical theory and practice supports a variety of blended innovations of teaching techniques. The Board will expect that a submission should demonstrate how the required learning outcomes are achieved by the teaching methods and assessment strategy.

[Comment: While the IBSC appreciates that many submitting organizations do not use English as a first language and many do not teach using English, it is nevertheless essential that submitting organizations strive to make the submitted documentation as clear as possible. Submitting organizations will need to submit both hard copy paper documentation and digital documentation. In the first case, paper documentation should be, as far as possible, confined to a single, bound document which is clearly and accurately indexed and cross-referenced. Similarly, and additionally, it is preferable for the review process to submit a single digital document file in either Microsoft Word or preferably as a pdf (Portable Document Format) file. It is a requirement for this document to be properly and thoroughly indexed and if possible, digitally tagged with hypertext links.]

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED IN ALL SUBMISSIONS:

7.1.1 CHAPTER 1: General Information on the Programme.

Chapter 1 of the submission must include the following sections:

1. Programme Identification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institution submitting the Programme for recognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous recognition year (if any)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard and Edition against which recognition is sought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of recognition sought (Category &quot;A&quot; or Category &quot;B&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of the Programme in weeks and study hours (Theory, Practical and Self Guided)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of the final project (CFFP, CCP, CMFP or CFCP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country of submitting institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language(s) in which the Programme is delivered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme coordinator name and full contact details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitting institution primary full contact details for IBSC correspondence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme capacity (expected/actual number of students taking the programme each year. For multi-year programmes, the expected total number of students progressing through the programme)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical position of the institution (latitude/longitude)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Aims of the Programme

The submission should, in this section, provide a clear narrative outline of the programme, with details of the target audience and intended outcome and where it fits within the institution and national/international hydrographic/cartographic community. The section should describe the academic elements of the programme and the objectives set for each student and their general learning outcomes.
3. **Entry Requirements and Exemptions**

Identify normal qualifications required for entry and alternative qualification routes that may be acceptable for entry.

For Programmes seeking exemption of some or all the *Basic or Foundation Science* subjects, provide a clear indication of where students would previously have attained that knowledge, and a clear description of the formal procedures used to evaluate claims for such exemptions. *No exemptions are permitted for Essential, Hydrographic and Cartographic Science subjects.*

[Comment: The Board will examine in detail the entry processes of the submitting organization. It will be focused on ensuring the entry requirements are properly and adequately met. Where an entry examination or test is employed the Board requires an outline of how the examination or test addresses the entry standards required.]

7.1.2 **CHAPTER 2: Information About the Programme Infrastructure**

Chapter 2 of the submission must include the following sections:

1. **Staff List:**

For each instructor contributing to the programme, provide a Curriculum Vitae (CV) which will include:

- Module taught;
- Academic qualifications;
- Hydrographic or cartographic experience; and
- Recent publications.

[Comment: The Board will look closely at staff CVs, in particular at the specific experience brought to teaching of the programme.]

2. **Facilities Available to Students:**

- Equipment: Provide a list of relevant equipment/systems that will be used in the delivery of practical work and in the final project;
- Software: List specific software (with emphasis on hydrographic and cartographic software);
- List of training aids (including any e-learning components and associated platforms for their delivery);
- Laboratories (description);
- Training vessels (description, photographs);
- Library List:
  - total number of volumes held;
  - approximate number of volumes relevant to Hydrography and Cartography;
  - other media available (e.g. charts, maps, audio-visual resources); and
  - availability and access policies to online digital resources.

7.1.3 **CHAPTER 3: Programme Description**

Chapter 3 of the submission must include the following sections:
1. **Programme Structure**

The Programme may involve a series of modules and formal training sessions that must include practicals, tutorials and field experience to reinforce and complement theoretical material. It is important that the programme structure is clearly described within the submission and that sufficient details of the components are provided. As a minimum the submission should include:

- Table of programme modules;
- Schedule of programme modules identifying where in the sequence each module it taken by students (programme timetable); and
- The duration (in weeks) of each module.

2. **Information About Each Module in the Programme**

This section should be easily understood and contain a full and detailed description of each programme module, including a reference to *elements* of the Standards for each course module item. This enables the institution to describe fully the programme in relation to the Standards and aids greatly in the Board’s review. Each module of the programme being submitted should be described in more detail than the S-5A or S-5B standards, with a tabulation of theory, practical exercises and self-guidance hours devoted to the elements of the Standards. This will allow the Board to relate the module and lectures to the cross-reference table (see 7.1.7) and tabulated programme description.

A schedule should be provided that shows lectures, tutorials and practicals within the module and relates them to *elements* of the Standards. This must include for each delivery item; means of delivery; hours allocated; reference to *elements* of the Standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name (e.g. Geodesy 1)</th>
<th>Teaching Hours</th>
<th>Lectures</th>
<th>Tutorials</th>
<th>Practicals</th>
<th>Self-Guided Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>Oral Exam</td>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2h</td>
<td>0h</td>
<td>4h</td>
<td>8h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Outline:**

(insert overview of the module content)

**Learning Outcomes:**

(insert learning outcomes for the module as defined by the teaching institution)

**Module Reference Material and Bibliography:**

(insert list of reference materials used in teaching and self-learning for this module)

*Table 1: Example of Each Module Summary*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geodesy 1 Items</th>
<th>Module Items Content</th>
<th>Delivery Method &amp; Time</th>
<th>S-5/S-8 (B or A) element</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geo1.1 [Lecture]</td>
<td>Spherical Trigonometry: Definition of great circle, spherical triangle, angles, trigonometric relations, orthodromic lines, spherical triangle area</td>
<td>Theory (2 hours)</td>
<td>B1.3 (ii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo1.1 [Laboratory]</td>
<td>Calculate distance on a great circle</td>
<td>Tutorial (1 hour)</td>
<td>B1.3 (ii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
<td>…</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2: Example of the Level of Detail of Each Module Item*
Each assessment component (through exams, assignments, etc.) must be clearly defined and related to learning outcomes from the Standards. It must be supported with assignment specifications and assessment criteria (i.e. the way each assignment and exam is graded).

Where e-learning components are used, the expected student total working time for each component, the estimated number of tutor-student interaction hours, e-lecture schedule, tests, exercises, and the way the student study time is monitored should be provided.

The IBSC does not intend to be prescriptive in how the modules or sub-components of Programme are structured, but it requires that they be properly and fully related to the cross-reference table.

3.  Texts and Reference Material

A list of texts and reference material used for each subject area, with an indication of the editorial house/publisher, and year of publication should be provided. Where e-learning components are included, then a description of the e-learning materials, including their source, year of publication and a description of the material access method, should be submitted.

[Comment: The Board will look to the adequacy and relevance of texts and reference materials. The section also serves as important feedback to the Board itself as to the availability of adequate and up to date teaching material. The IBSC wishes to ensure that students are adequately supported in terms of access and availability to required texts and reference material.]

7.1.4 CHAPTER 4: Student Assessment

Chapter 4 of the submission must include the following sections:

1.  Student Assessment and Grading:
   - Describe how a mark in each module is determined on the basis of assessment components within that module together with requirements for obtaining a pass.
   - Describe how grades awarded within the Programme are combined to give an overall grade and the requirement for award of recognition.
   - Provide details of mechanisms to support students who fail a particular component of a Programme.
   - Describe how individuals are assessed in the final project

[Comment: The expectation of the IBSC is that all learning outcomes of the Standards will be assessed in some form for example by examination, quiz, assignments, practical tasks, field-work, office-work or project tasks.]

2.  Examination Papers

Representative examination papers, sample writing or self-guided assignments, and e-learning assessment components from each Subject area, taken by students during the programme (i.e. not only the final examination), must be submitted. For new programmes a prospective sample set must be provided.

[Comment: In reviewing a submission the Board will check that the format and level of the examinations and tests employed are appropriate to the learning outcomes sought and the category of recognition sought. New submissions will be expected to have developed as a minimum an examining or testing strategy appropriate to the planned course.]
7.1.5 CHAPTER 5: Practical Exercises

A list and details of practical exercises, listed by Essential subject (S-5B/S-8B), Foundation Science subjects and Hydrographic Science subjects (S-5A) or Cartographic Science (S-8A) as described in section 4.1 must be provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practical exercises</th>
<th>Programme module</th>
<th>S-5/S-8 (B or A) element</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td>(insert reference of the programme module)</td>
<td>(insert reference to a S-5A/B or S-8A/B element)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3

7.1.6 CHAPTER 6: Final Project

A detailed and comprehensive narrative description of the Final Project (CFFP, CCP, CMFP or CFCP) is to be provided. Describe the timescale and schedule. Explain student participation as groups or individuals, the assessment criteria for groups and individuals and who will conduct the assessment. Include the project specification as provided to the students and a sample of required student deliverables and reports.

In addition, a table MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE SPECIFIED TEMPLATE PROVIDED, as prescribed below. In this table the Final Project, whether CFFP, CCP, CMFP or CFCP, should be described in terms of learning outcomes associated to the tasks (that are defined by the institution) to ensure that the course content is comprehensively exercised. These tasks are to be cross-referenced to the Essential, Foundation or Hydrographic/Cartographic Science subjects.

1. Guidance to Complete the Final Project Description Table

The project should be described as a series of phases and associated tasks (project activities) each itemized as separate rows of the table. Each task should be identified in the first column and the other columns populated with attributes of that task.

The Task Outcome describes the intended result of the completed task. The required resources, equipment, software, data sources, etc. for each task are to be itemized. The number of hours devoted by the student to a particular task is to be itemized.

Each task should refer to the module identifier for the project and related (S-5 or S-8) subjects from the Standards.

| Final Project (Hydrographic) Description Table (CFFP or CMFP) |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Phase & Task     | Task Outcome    | Resources: equipment, software, data sources, etc | Hours | Programme Module(s) | Related S-5 Elements |
| Planning         |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 1           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 2           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task ……          |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Preparation      |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 1           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Acquisition      |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 1           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 2           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 3           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Processing       |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task 1           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Task ……          |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
| Deliverables     |                 |                 |                 |                 |                   |
### COMPREHENSIVE CARTOGRAPHIC PROJECT (CCP or CFCP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase &amp; Task</th>
<th>Task Outcome</th>
<th>Resources: equipment, software, data sources, etc.</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Programme Module(s)</th>
<th>Related S-S Subjects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation</td>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition &amp; Processing</td>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition</td>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliverables - Paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliverables - ENC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 4: Final Project Descriptive Tables

### 7.1.7 CHAPTER 7: Programme Cross-Reference Table

This table is the most important information used by the Board to assess submitted programmes and MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE SPECIFIED TEMPLATE PROVIDED, as prescribed below. This table contains a mapping of the hours for theory (T), practicals (P), self-guided (SG) devoted to each element and learning outcomes of the Standards, and classified by subject. The information provided is required to demonstrate that every element’s contents and learning outcomes are covered by the programme modules.

[Comment: Particular care should be taken in ensuring the cross-referencing is completed accurately and comprehensively. The Board needs to reference the learning outcomes sought against the content delivered.]

#### 1. Guidance to Complete the Cross-Reference Table

Submitting institutions MUST complete the shaded columns of the table shown below for each Basic subject and Essential subject:

- **T/P/SG (Theory/Practicals or Labs/Self-guided):**
  - Theory through lectures;
  - Practicals (fieldwork and/or laboratories);
  - Self-guided exercises (or student’s personal independent work).

For each element, the combined means of delivery should be clearly and uniquely identified.
- **Hours**: Indicate the number of teaching hours for the different categories of delivery;
- **Module and content**: For each relevant course module to a S-5 element, indicate its name and the list of content it is addressing.

The following table provides a generic example for an element <c> of an essential subject topic Ex.y

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ex (subject)</th>
<th>Ex.y (topic)</th>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
<th>Module and content</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ex.y&lt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>(B/I)</td>
<td>Core content which are required to achieve the learning outcomes. These may apply to multiple elements and learning outcomes.</td>
<td>Students should be able to meet these outcomes at the completion of the programme. All learning outcomes should be evaluated either by, or a combination of, assessment, examination, laboratory work or final project</td>
<td>Course module reference and associated content</td>
<td>N N’ N”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 5: Generic Example**

Each *Basic, Essential, Foundation, Hydrographic or Cartographic Science subject* is comprised of a list of topics which are denoted by Bx.y, Ex.y, Fx.y, Hx.y or Cx.y. Each topic contains elements which are denoted by <c>.

All modules of a programme submission MUST include a detailed breakdown of content and associated hours. The cross-reference should refer to those modules as provided in the following example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ex (subject)</th>
<th>Ex.y (topic)</th>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
<th>Module and content</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ex.y&lt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>i. Content 1</td>
<td>Learning outcome Ex.y&lt;&gt;i</td>
<td>GEOM302 (i)(iii)(iv)</td>
<td>5 3 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ii. Content 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>HYDRO304 (i)(vi)</td>
<td>3 2 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>iii. Content 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8 5 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>iv. Content 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>v. Content 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>vi. Content 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex.y&lt;&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>i. Content 1</td>
<td>Learning outcome Ex.y&lt;&gt;i</td>
<td>HYDRO501 (ii)(iv)(v)</td>
<td>8 4 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ii. Content 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 6: Detailed Breakdown of Content and Associated Hours**

### 7.1.8 CHAPTER 8: Student Feedback

The IBSC strives to ensure that quality control measures are in place and a part of this process involves consultation with the student body. It is important that students enrolled in the Programme are able to contribute to development and change. Mechanisms such as student liaison meetings help in dealing with issues that arise during delivery. On completion of the Programme a questionnaire should be circulated to solicit opinions on matters such as accessibility to resources and delivery of each course. Summary results from questionnaires should be included in the submission.
7.1.9 CHAPTER 9: Internal Review

Institutions are required to have in place an internal review process for the Programme. It is recommended that any Programme will also undergo a comprehensive internal review every 3-5 years, to address any issues that may arise and to update course content.

The methodology adopted by the institution for the internal review will need to be furnished in detail. The summary of any recent internal review undertaken for a programme submitted for recognition will need to be included in the submission. This should not be taken as precluding newly developed programmes not yet able to satisfy these items.

The Board wishes to see how feedback from all sources, including students, is formally taken into account within and by the Programme.

8. IBSC PROCEDURE FOR RECOGNITION OF PROGRAMMES

8.1 IBSC Review and Evaluation

See ANNEX for the Application Process Flow Diagram.

The Board meets annually during April to review and evaluate programmes. The deadline of 31 December each prior year is chosen in order that submissions reach all Board members and the Secretary by mid-January. It is helpful for the IBSC in setting its work program to know as early as possible that a submission is being made.

Before 31 December, the completeness of submissions will be checked to determine if it is eligible for Board review. A submission is declared eligible if

- Fees have been paid;
- Chapter 1 to 9 are adequately documented;
- Information about each module in the programme is provided with a sufficient level of detail;
- The final project description is provided with a sufficient level of detail and the final project cross reference table is provided and complete; and
- The programme cross-reference table is provided and complete.

If the submission is not eligible, the institution will have to update the documentation within one month (by 31 January). If the updated documentation is not provided in due time or if it does not meet the eligibility criterion for Board Review, the submission will not be reviewed. Only eligible submissions will be reviewed.

Since the Board is charged with reviewing a significant number of submissions each year as well as maintaining the Standards themselves, it is essential that submitting organizations assist with the Board's timing requirement. In the experience of the Board, the better submissions are those which are most straightforward for it to review and these are typically those prepared well ahead of the submission date and which have been thoroughly reviewed internally by the submitting organization.

8.2 Review Process

See ANNEX for the Procedure for Recognition of Programmes Flow Diagram.

Once a submission is declared eligible for Review, the Chair of the Board assigns it to a primary Review Team who are responsible for leading the detailed review. All Members of the Board will review all submissions in plenary at the annual meeting having had time to make their own preliminary assessment beforehand.
A submitting organization may be contacted prior to the Board Meeting if the review team requires clarification(s). The Board endeavors to ensure that it has on hand the complete submission 'facts' to finalize its review process during the meeting.

While not mandatory, **in the experience of the Board it is beneficial for a submitting organization to send a representative (a maximum of 2 persons) to the meeting where its submission will be reviewed.** The representative(s) should be prepared to make a presentation to the Board of no longer than 20 minutes, and be qualified to respond authoritatively to questions posed or clarifications sought by the IBSC in plenary.

The Board's decision will be one of the following:

1. **RECOGNISED:** no further requirements or changes are necessary;
2. **RECOGNISED WITH CONDITIONS:** further requirements or changes are necessary in response to identified issues. The required information is to be submitted within a period specified by the Board;
3. **NOT RECOGNISED:** a full resubmission is required, including all documentation (In exceptional circumstances the Board may consider an inter-sessional re-submission).

The Board will inform the submitting organization of its decision during the meeting and will follow up with a formal letter explaining its decision and requirements.

### 8.3 Certificate of Programme Completion

Institutions providing a programme which has been recognized as outlined in section 2.2, are encouraged to issue successful students with a certificate of programme completion. Such certificate may acknowledge that the Programme has received the Board’s recognition, specifying the category of that recognition, as in the following example:

“This Programme has been recognized as meeting the requirements of the FIG/IHO/ICA S-5A/B or S-8A/B Standards of Competence for Category "A" (or "B") Hydrographic Surveyors or Standards of Competence for Category "A" (or "B") Nautical Cartographers”

Institutions cannot include any FIG, IHO, ICA or IBSC logos in their certificates.

### 9. FOLLOW-UP OF RECOGNIZED PROGRAMS BY THE IBSC

#### 9.1 Program Reviews and On-Site Visits

Institutions with recognized Programmes should be prepared to allow an IBSC visit, to view the facilities and to meet staff and students involved. The guidelines for the IBSC visit are:

**9.1.1 Scope**

A Programme review is a process for evaluating and continuously enhancing the quality and currency of Programmes. The evaluation is conducted through a combination of self-assessment, followed by peer on-site consultation by the IBSC, for the mutual benefit of all parties. In addition, a visit serves to raise the profile of hydrography and nautical cartography with other in-country agencies and regionally.

**9.1.2 Purpose of Program Review**

The purpose of the on-site review is to confirm the internal review document presented by the host institution, in accordance with the Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors (S-5A/B) and the Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers (S-8A/B). This is designed to assess institutions’ alignment of their Programmes with the Standards and to review educational processes.
9.1.3 Internal Review Document

A prerequisite for the on-site review is the submission of an internal review document prepared by the hosting institution covering a period of up to 5 years, from either: the last on-site review visit; or, commencement of the current Programme. This should be submitted in English at least one month prior to the on-site visit with content as indicated below:

- The Annual Review Document(s) as detailed in section 9.3.
- If requested, the final submission from the current recognized programme as presented to the Board for recognition
- Any changes to the course content, staff, delivery, facilities, field training, equipment and other resources
- Programme statistics relating to students including, entry, progression, completion and destinations (employment)
- Relevant institutional research

The Review Team will comprise two or three reviewers and the duration of the on-site review is typically two to three days.

Further documentation to be made available during the visit includes:

- A full set of programme documentation
- Exam papers and sample scripts
- Assignment specifications and sample submissions
- Specifications for practical exercises and field training with sample submissions
- Final project submissions
- Internal course assessment procedures and sample results
- Programme review documentation

9.1.4 The On-Site Visit

During the on-site visit the Review Team will undertake the following activities in accordance with a schedule that is agreed in advance with the hosting institution:

- Preliminary discussion:
  - Clarify the information provided in the Internal Review document
  - Outline the schedule and objectives for the on-site visit
- Meet current students, faculty members, administrators, and staff
- Meet former students and employers
- Visit classrooms, labs, survey vessels and other key facilities
- Provide oral feedback to the institution

9.1.5 On-Site Visit Outcomes

Within one month of the visit a written report detailing the findings and recommendations of the Review Team for the programme will be provided to the hosting institution for response and sent to the Board. Recommendations made by the Review Team will be considered by the Board with possible outcomes as follows:

- Programme is satisfactory;
- There is a need for minor modifications that can be rectified internally by the hosting institution;
- The findings of the Review Team refer to major issues requiring significant changes to the documentation and/or practices as detailed in the report. Modifications are to be implemented within an agreed timeframe indicated by the Board and documentary evidence of the modifications will be required;
The findings of the Review Team refer to major issues and therefore a new submission is required at a time to be agreed with the Board.

9.2 Register of Recognized Programs

Recognition is granted on the understanding that institutions undertake to update their programme content according to changes in technology as reflected in the latest edition of the Standards. The IBSC reserves the right to monitor Programme syllabi in conformity with the current published Standards. The Board annually updates its Register of Recognized Programmes, which is published in the Board Annual Meeting report. Programmes that have been recognized within the previous six (6) years are listed in this Register. To remain on the Register beyond six (6) years, programmes will need to be re-submitted against the then current Standards.

9.3 Annual report

All institutions running a recognized Programme must send a short annual report to the Board’s Secretariat. Any change to a recognized Programme must be included.

The annual report should contain the following information:

Name of Programme: ________________________________
Name of Contact Person: ____________________________
Contact information of Contact Person: ______________
Period Covered: ___________ to ___________

Programme Changes
- Identify any changes made to the programme such as structure, sequence or timing with a rationale.
- Identify any changes made to courses within a programme such as content and assessment strategy.
- Identify significant changes to key staff involved in delivery.

Programme Statistics
The minimum statistical information/data concerning courses within the programme are required as follows:
- Entry statistics, indicating for example gender, age and country of origin.
- Number of students enrolled within each cohort of the programme.
- Number of students completing the programme.
- Progression for each course within the programme, i.e. pass/fail rates in each course.

Student Evaluation Results
Internal assessment is the appraisal process performed by the institution responsible for the Programme. At the end of each module, each student is required to complete an anonymous questionnaire. In addition to a copy of the questionnaire the following information/data is required:
- Total number of evaluations returned and number of students in the programme
- Mean
- Median
- Standard deviation
- Minimum
- Maximum

Staff Evaluation of Each Course
For each course, the course coordinator is required to comment on the following aspects of the course:
- Delivery schedule
- Delivery of practical labs and field training
- Assessment of students
Follow-Up Actions by Staff
For each course, the course coordinator is required to comment on the following aspects of the course:

- Impact of changes made since last report
- Student evaluation (in the case of a negative evaluation, detailed comments with an explanation and actions for future delivery)
- Course assessment results, for example exams and assignment (in the case of high fail rates or low average grades, detailed comments with an explanation and actions for future delivery)
- Constraints in delivering the course, for example resources (any improvements that may be made and how they might be supported).

List of Graduated Students
In order to provide relevant information for the management of the IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) activities, all recognized institutions should provide the list and contact information of their graduate students. This list should include graduates names, gender, nationality, country of residence, institution and contact information (e-mail, telephone). The information will be used for the internal CBSC assessment only and will not be published or made available to external public.
ANNEX

S-5A/B and S-8A/B Checklist for Submitting Institutions

☐ Inform Chair and Secretary of intention to submit a programme for recognition (starting the dialogue)

☐ Prepare an internal project plan to meet 31 December deadline for submission (focus on deadline)

☐ Assemble the programme documentation into a single coherent submission in the English language with unique page numbers (focus on documentation requirements)

Ref: GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS AND NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHERS

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<td>Programme Cross-reference table – MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE SPECIFIED TEMPLATE PROVIDED</td>
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☐ Inform the Chair and Secretary that the submission is complete (focus on final submission and fee)

☐ IHO Secretariat programme I.D. issued (unique ID for payment)

☐ Pay fee and deliver submission (pay fees)

☐ Inform Chair and Secretary of attendance at the IBSC meeting (focus on meeting and presentation)
Application Process Flow Diagram

To submit a programme for recognition

Register interest
Seek advice

S-5 Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors
S-5 or S-8
S-8 Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers

Category A
S-5A
Category B
S-5B
Category A
S-8
Category B
S-8

Prepare submission

Ref: S-5 Guidelines for the Implementation of the Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors
OR
Ref: S-8 Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers

Prepare submission

Covering letter
Complete Programme ID template
Programme documentation

Submit documentation
Submit fee

Prepare presentation (20 mins max)

Confirm attendance at IBSC meeting (2 persons max)

Deadline 31 December

Category A or Category B programme?
Category A
S-5
Category B
S-8
Procedure for Recognition of Programmes Flow Diagram

Documentation check by Secretariat

All programmes submitted
Review spreadsheet

1st review

Individual evaluation

2nd review

3rd review

Peer review

Deadline 31 December

Deadline 31 January

March/April

IBSC Meeting

- Submitting institution presentation and Q&A (20 mins max, 2 persons max)
- Board discussion
- Board decision
- Letter