



## TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 058 of 24<sup>th</sup> May 2012

---

To:	All Surveyors/Auditor
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	<b>Guidance Notes for Auditors: Maintenance and upkeep of Nautical Charts and Publications on board</b>
Reference:	SAFETY – SOLAS Chapter V

---

### **Guidance Notes for Auditors: Maintenance and upkeep of Nautical Charts and Publications on board**

SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 27 requires nautical charts and publications on board to be maintained up-to-date for the intended voyage.

To meet this requirement, the Company's Safety Management System (SMS) must include procedures describing how marine charts and publications are maintained and kept up-to-date.

Nautical charts do not only refer to British Admiralty (BA) charts but includes US charts, Australian Charts, local charts, etc. used for the voyage.

Nautical publications normally include Sailing Directions, List of Lights, Radio Signals, Chart catalogues & Tide Tables. Of these the first three are subject to periodical correction and/or regularly replacement when new editions are published.

Basically, correction of charts and publications is based on British Admiralty Weekly Notices to Mariners (NTM) or equivalent NTM published by other authorities.

By tradition, ship's Second Officer is responsible to the Master for the proper correction and maintenance of all charts and navigation publications. However, the correction of Light Lists and Admiralty List of Radio Signals may be delegated to another officer, as defined in the Company's SMS.

There is no unique standard for chart and publication correction; the procedure varies from Company to Company.

Nautical publication NP 141- Chart Log contains instructions for chart corrections and these are adopted by most companies. Additionally, publication NP294 "How to correct your charts the admiralty

**Customer Service Center**  
5201 Blue Lagoon Drive, 9<sup>TH</sup>. Floor,  
Miami, Fl., 33126  
Tel: 1 (305) 716 4116,  
Fax: 1 (305) 716 4117,  
E-Mail:

[joel@conarinagroup.com](mailto:joel@conarinagroup.com)

**Technical Head Office**  
7111 Dekadine Ct.  
Spring, Tx., 77379  
Tel: 1 (281) 370 9363,  
1 (713) 204 6380

E-Mail: [tho@conarinagroup.com](mailto:tho@conarinagroup.com),  
[houston@conarinagroup.com](mailto:houston@conarinagroup.com)

way” is available on most vessels. This is a technical booklet for guidance of deck officers on chart correction.

When selecting the charts and publications to be used as samples, the auditor should focus on those that are relevant to the voyage just performed and the intended voyage.

### **Verifying compliance**

#### **Chart Correction**

#### **Weekly and six-monthly Cumulative Notices to Mariners (NTM)**

1. Ask to be shown the latest weekly edition of the NTM that is available on board. Ensure that the company has a system for supplying these to the vessel within reasonable time bearing in mind the vessel’s trading pattern etc.
2. Cumulative Notices to Mariners are published in Jan and July each year. These contain a list of all charts with their date of new edition and a list of all correction numbers affecting each chart since the publication.

#### **Latest editions of charts**

1. Vessel should have in use the latest edition of charts.
2. Select a few sample charts. Check the chart’s new edition date against the latest edition date from the Chart catalogue and cross check the same from the latest cumulative NTM.

#### **REFERENCES:**

STCW - 2010 Amendments

**ATTACHMENTS:** No.

Kindest Regards,  
Cosmin Bozenovici  
Naval Architect – Conarina Technical Head Office

**Customer Service Center**  
5201 Blue Lagoon Drive, 9<sup>TH</sup>. Floor,  
Miami, Fl., 33126  
Tel: 1 (305) 716 4116,  
Fax: 1 (305) 716 4117,  
E-Mail:

[joel@conarinagroup.com](mailto:joel@conarinagroup.com)

**Technical Head Office**  
7111 Dekadine Ct.  
Spring, Tx., 77379  
Tel: 1 (281) 370 9363,  
1 (713) 204 6380

E-Mail: [tho@conarinagroup.com](mailto:tho@conarinagroup.com),  
[houston@conarinagroup.com](mailto:houston@conarinagroup.com)