

TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 747 of 7th September 2022

То	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Electronic Nautical Charts
Reference	IMO's Sub-committee on Navigation

ECDIS Update. Electronic Nautical Charts

From June 21 to June 30, the IMO's Sub-committee on Navigation, Communications, and Search and Rescue (NCSR 9) held ITS 9th session.

<u>Navigation and voyage planning</u>: Navigation and voyage planning requirements for fishing vessels, pleasure yachts and small cargo ships operating in polar waters were finalized.

<u>Guidelines on places of refuge for ships</u>: NCSR 9 finalized a draft revision of the "Guidelines on places of refuge in need of assistance" to incorporate experiences and developments since its adoption in 2004.

A draft Assembly resolution containing the revised guidelines will be submitted to MSC 106, Nov. 2022, for approval and adoption.

<u>Modernization of the GMDSS</u>: The modernization implies generic requirements of specific service providers, as well as the removal of carriage requirements for obsolete systems and a reorganization of SOLAS requirements for communication equipment. The definition of the sea areas A1 and A4 have been amended to reflect that the geographical area of coverage may vary between various satellite services providers.

<u>Maritime Safety Information in the GMDSS:</u> NCSR 9 finalized a draft second revision of the NAVTEX service, which is an international direct printing service for the promulgation of MSI and urgent safety-related messages to ships. The draft revision is expected to become effective on 1 January 2023, subject to approval by MSC 106, Nov. 2022.

<u>Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS)</u>: NCSR 9 finalized a draft second revision of the "ECDIS guidance for good practice" (MSC.1/Circ.1503/Rev.1) to improve the unified implementation of ECDIS type approval when approving to the Data Presentation and Performance Check (DPPC) dataset of IHO in relation to anomalies.

NCSR 9 finalized a draft revision of the "ECDIS performance standards" (resolution MSC.232(82) to include references to the IHO product specifications S-98, S-100 and S-101 into the current performance standards to allow for the introduction of the next technical generation of Electronic Navigational Charts (S-101 ENC)

The revised performance standards will be applicable to ECDIS equipment installed on or after 1 January 2029. In a transitional period, from 1 January 2026 to 1 January 2029, ECDIS equipment may confirm to either the current performance standards (resolution MSC.232(82)) or the newly introduced ECDIS performance standards based on S-101.

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<u>Electronic inclinometers</u>: NCSR_9 finalized draft SOLAS amendments to make electronic inclinometers for the measurement of heel angles compulsory for container ships and bulk carriers of 3,000 gross tonnages and upwards. The draft requirements are not intended for cargo ships occasionally carrying cargoes in bulk and general cargo ships carrying containers on deck. The amendments are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2026, subject to approval and adoption by the MSC.

REFERENCES:

- IMO's Sub-committee on Navigation, Communications, and Search and Rescue (NCSR 9)

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards, CONARINA Technical Office

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