

GUIDANCE NOTE 07/2017 (Rev 1.0)

ECDIS AND IHO PRESENTATION STANDARD IHO S-52

To: OWNERS, MANAGERS, MASTERS AND NAVIGATION WATCHKEEPERS

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 On 24 July 2015, IMO published MSC Circular MSC.1/Circ.1503 entitled “ECDIS – Guidance for Good Practice”. This circular was recently updated to MSC.1/Circ.1503/Rev.1 on 16 June 2017.

1.2 Part B of this circular addresses the maintenance of ECDIS software and states that “ECDIS that is not updated to the latest version of the IHO Standards may not meet the chart carriage requirements as set out in SOLAS regulation V/19.2.1.4”.

1.3 For Cayman Islands ships, compliance with MSC.1/Circ.1503/Rev.1 is considered as meeting the carriage requirements for ECDIS in accordance with regulation 4(5) of the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations, 2004. (See Shipping Notice 03/2015 Rev 1.)

2. IHO S-52 PRESENTATION LIBRARY STANDARD

2.1 Version 4.0 of Standard S-52 was published by IHO in August 2015. All new ECDIS installed on board ships after 01 September 2017 are required to conform to this version of the IHO Standard.

2.2 During its 3rd session, IMO’s Subcommittee of Navigation, Communication and Search and Rescue (NCSR) agreed to 01 September 2017 being the date that Version 4.0 of Standard S-52 is to be utilized by both new ECDIS installations and to existing ECDIS carried on ships in service to comply with MSC.1/Circ.1503.

2.3 As such, all ECDIS installations on Cayman Islands ships should now be operating with Version 4.0 of IHO Presentation Library S-52.

3. ACTIONS REQUIRED AND PORT STATE CONTROL

3.1 Both the Paris and Tokyo MOUs on Port State Control are currently undertaking Concentrated Inspection Campaigns focusing on Safety of Navigation. These campaigns will be examining both the ECDIS in use on board and watchkeeping officers’ familiarity with the ECDIS installation. As part of this “familiarization”, watchkeeping officers should be aware of the changes to how chart information is presented under Version 4.0 of S-52.

3.2 All watchkeeping officers must familiarize themselves with the function in their ECDIS that will display the edition number of the IHO Presentation Library, as this varies between ECDIS manufactures. This function will be required when Port State Control officers want evidence that the ECDIS is up to date to the latest IHO standards and MSC.1/Circ.1503/Rev.1.

3.3 If an ECDIS is found not to be up to date or that watchkeeping officers are not familiar with the equipment this will constitute a deficiency and the ship may be liable to be detained.

3.4 If an ECDIS installed on a Cayman Islands ship has not been updated to support Version 4.0 of IHO S-52, owners and managers must contact the ECDIS manufacturer to initiate an urgent upgrade of existing ECDIS software for compliance with the latest IHO standards.

3.5 If an ECDIS installation cannot be updated to Version 4.0 of S-52, the ship owner should contact the Cayman Islands Shipping Registry (technical@cishipping.com) stating why the ECDIS cannot be updated, how the ship will continue to meet the carriage requirements of SOLAS regulation V/19.2.1.4, and their proposals for bringing the ship back into compliance with MSC.1/Circ.1503/Rev.1.

4. INFORMATION FROM IHO

4.1 IHO has published advice and guidance on “Checking the IHO S-52 Presentation Library Edition Number in the ECDIS”. This guidance can be down loaded from [HERE](#)¹.

¹ https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/ENCWG/MISC/IHOPreslibChart1final.pdf