

National Report of Sweden (17 January 2005)

Administrative information

Since last NHC-meeting there has been some minor changes to the organisation of the Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA). The department of Operations has been divided into two departments, Fairway department and Maritime Traffic department.

Surveying activities

All Swedish waters are surveyed and most of the areas, especially fairway areas, to high standard, but the objective is that all Swedish waters should be surveyed in accordance with international standards e.g. IHO S- 44.

The first target is to survey the priority areas (HELCOM-routes, "Safe Sea Lanes"-project, fairways to the largest harbours etc). This area is approx 57 000 km² and today approx 25 % of the area is surveyed to the standard, IHO S-44.

According to the today existing plans this area should be finalized within the next ten years.

Of the total area of Swedish waters (approx. 160 000 km²) is approx 10 % surveyed to the standard. S 44

Hydrographic surveys during 2004 encompassed total 2944 km² of which 1657 km² were within the areas in line with the decision of HELCOM. ("HELCOM-routes").

As part of the "Safe Sea Lanes" project, surveys were conducted in the fairways to Uddevalla, in the traffic separation scheme off Gotland, in the fairway to Axelsvik/Karlsborg and in the Sound of Kalmar.

Bar sweeping was conducted as a part of the finalisation of the new fairway to Gothenburg.

In order to provide reliable depth data in an efficient way the Hydrographic Office has a Depth Information System (DIS) in use since 2002. In this database the depth data is stored in a manner that provide fast access.

In the first step using DIS all digital depth data collected from 1982 and onwards has been stored in DIS

Surveying ships

ALE, length 49,5 m, beam 13 m. is a combined icebreaker and surveying ship equipped with multibeam

JAKOB HÄGG, length 36,5 m, beam 7,5 m is equipped with multibeam

NILS STRÖMCRONA, length 30 m, beam 13 m, equipped with multibeam and bar sweep

MB 28, length 6,7 m, beam 2,5 m, equipped with multibeam

RAM 9, length 14 m, beam 8 m, bar sweeping vessel.

Nautical Charts and Publications

During 2004 three new paper charts were produced, number 41 (Gulf of Bothnia, northern part), 42 (Gulf of Bothnia, southern part) and number 714 (South part of the sound of Kalmar).

From the common chart data base were 105 new versions of paper charts printed.

Three revised editions of small craft chart series were also produced during the year. The paper size of one of those chart series was changed to a smaller size, A3. This change to smaller size of this chart portfolio, covering Lake Mälaren, was much appreciated by the customers.

An updated version of "the Living Chart" (DLS) covering the Swedish west coast has been published.

The work concerning the establishment of a "common" digital coastline of Sweden has continued in co-operation with the land surveying authorities

ENC-production

This year 110 new Official ENCs were produced and delivered to Primar-Stavanger. In addition 409 EN-files and 141 ER-files were released to keep the ENCs continuously up to date. The conversion of all data from S57 ed 3.0 to S57 ed 3.1 was completed during 2004. The total number of Swedish ENCs now amounts to 374. It remains about 100 cells to produce before the geographical coverage of the ENC portfolio is equivalent to the national coverage of the paper chart portfolio. These remaining cells will be produced during 2005.

The ENCs are produced from the same database as the printed charts. In December 2004 the database was successfully migrated from Open VMS to Windows with software delivered from Laserscan/Sysdeco. The conversion to S57-format is still done by an in-house developed program.

Nautical publications

A new edition (ed. 5) of chart 1 has been published as well as a chart catalogue.

The Notices to Mariners are published weekly and the information is also available on the web site. During 2004 approx. 700 notices concerning changes in Swedish charts were published in NtM.

The special publication –Notices to Yachtsmen- will be withdrawn and the last edition was published during 2004. The information is instead to be found on the web site.

Navigational warnings

413 Swedish navigational warnings were issued during 2004, of which 113 were transmitted by the international NAVTEX system. As SMA is “Baltic Sea Sub-Area Coordinator” as well as “NAVTEX Coordinator” the other eight Baltic Sea countries are continuously sending navigational warnings to SMA. During 2004 a total of 663 navigational warnings were received from abroad of which 483 were transmitted on NAVTEX.

Originating country	Number of warnings received	Number of warnings transmitted on Navtex	% of received warnings transmitted on navtex
2004			
Sweden	413	113	27
Finland	34	31	91
Russia, Petersb.	19	15	79
Russia, Kaliningr.	82	82	100
Estonia	19	17	89
Latvia	32	31	97
Lithuania	53	29	55
Poland	70	62	89
Germany	89	82	92
Denmark	265	134	51
TOTAL	1076	596	55

During 2004 a “Baltico”-meeting was held in Sweden. Approx 20 persons from 9 countries met to discuss the exchange and promulgation of maritime safety information within the Baltic Sea area.