

NHC Common input to the S-44 Working Group

(31 January 2005)

Introduction

In many of the Nordic countries there are significant shallow water areas. These are difficult to navigate and survey. There are some special requirements related to this kind of areas.

At least Sweden and Finland have developed their own national extensions to the latest version of the S-44.

The S-44 Working Group has been activated again with the task to revise the S-44 specifications. Finland and Sweden are members of the S-44 WG.

Some of the special shallow water requirements which should be addressed in this work are:

- accuracy of the survey
- detection of obstacles in bottom
- the use of bar sweep
- the use of the S-44 as a basis for engineering standards
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Proposals:

Finland proposes that the opinions of the NHC members on these issues will be harmonised and common proposals to be presented to the S-44 WG. Especially to specify an Extended Order for shallow areas with limited navigation possibilities.

Actions required by the NHC/49 Meeting:

The NHC/49 is asked to consider this proposal and decide on appropriate actions.
