

**4th CSPCWG MEETING
Monaco, 13-15 November 2007**

Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG

Colour of magnetic detail on charts

Submitted by:	Chairman
Executive Summary:	In response to the revision of M4 Section B440 (Round 3), DK queried the colour of the 'Magnetic Anomaly' legend.
Related Documents:	M4, INT1
Related Projects:	Revision of M4, New editions of INT1

Introduction / Background

Extract from M4 B443.2 (revised):

In certain circumstances, high voltage power cables may cause a deviation in a ship's magnetic compass; in these cases, where reports have been received, they should be treated as local magnetic anomalies (see B-274) and the legend 'Magnetic Anomaly' (see Note) should be added in black at appropriate points along the cable.

DK comment:

To me it would be more obvious if the legend was shown in magenta as the legend relates to a symbol shown in magenta. (The same goes for the symbol/text shown in M-4 B-274.1 and B-274.2 as well as INT 1 B 82.1 and B 82.2)

Analysis / Discussion

Most Magnetic data on charts is shown in magenta. The exceptions are where magnetic variation is shown 'out of position', eg in a chart plan title area, see B272.2 and magnetic anomalies. It is not known why magnetic anomalies are an exception. It may be historical, from the link with the magnetic compass, which used to be charted in black.

Conclusions

The current convention for magnetic anomalies to be in black is no longer logical (if it ever was). However, beyond cartographic tidiness, it may be debated whether it is worth changing.

Recommendations

No change.

Justification and Impacts

The justification for a change is for 'cartographic consistency'.

The justification for no change is 'established convention' and that it is improbable for a change to be useful to the chart user.

Changing magnetic anomalies to magenta will have significant impacts:

- Eventually amendment to numerous charts and associated chart notes, with the obsolescent black version unlikely to be eradicated for many years. Possible confusion to the user.
- Amendments required to M4 at B274 and B443 (the latter easy as revised section not yet published)
- Amendments to INT1 B82.1, 82.2

- Amendment to INT3

Action required of CSPCWG

The CSPCWG is invited to consider whether a change is justified.