

**5th CSPCWG MEETING  
Sydney, 18-21 November 2008**

**Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG**

**Platforms that are disused, abandoned or dismantled**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	UK
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	INT1 L14 is unused space holder for 'Disused platform'. During review of B-440, it was decided there is no need for a specific symbol. However, recent information about platforms in the North Sea suggests a review of that decision is required.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	M-4 B-445.2 (2008 revision)
<b>Related Projects:</b>	none

**Introduction / Background**

INT1 L14 is unused space holder for 'Disused platform'. During review of B-440, it was decided there is no need for a specific symbol. However, recent information about platforms in the North Sea suggests a review of that decision is required.

**Analysis / Discussion**

UK has used the legend '(disused)' alongside a platform symbol to identify those that are abandoned (ie disused). This is not a special symbol itself, but simply symbol P2 with a qualifying legend alongside. However, it has recently been suggested within UKHO, by our oil/gas data specialists, that it would be useful to distinguish between a platform which has simply been abandoned but still look like a working platform (ie all the superstructure is still present) and one where the superstructure has been dismantled and all that is left visible is an above-water concrete and/or metal legs/base.

**Conclusions**

Because they will appear very different, it may be useful to distinguish between abandoned and partially dismantled platforms.

**Recommendations**

The symbol for a disused or abandoned platform with superstructure still present (ie it looks like an oil or gas production platform) may be appropriately labelled '(disused)', but it is suggested that the symbol for a platform which has no distinguishing superstructure left would be better labelled 'Ru' or '(ru)' as appropriate. This would accord with the convention used for windmills that have had the sails removed (see B-378.2 & INT1 25.2).

There is no need to include a disused platform in INT1 (the meaning of 'disused' is obvious) but it may be useful to use L14 for a 'Disused platform with superstructure removed'. A paragraph should be added to B-445.2 as a guide to cartographers:

'A disused or abandoned platform may be labelled '(disused)'. If the superstructure has been removed, leaving only an above-water base structure, this should be labelled 'Ru', or the adjective '(ru)' added under any retained designation (eg Z-44), or descriptor, (eg SPM):

**L14**

Associated features need to be reviewed, eg:

- pipelines would normally be amended to disused;

- safety zones may still apply and if so should be charted accordingly;
- they may still carry navigation lights, so a flare (and if required a light description) should be included as appropriate;
- if no associated features remain, consideration should be given to enhancing their prominence on the chart (eg with a danger line) as they remain a significant collision hazard.

For charting platforms which have been removed below the surface, see B-422.8.’

### **Justification and Impacts**

As oil and gas production wells dry up and production moves on to other areas, increasingly existing production platforms and wells are being shut down. We must ensure guidance is available to HOs for the safe and consistent charting of disused and dismantled platforms.

### **Action required of CSPCWG**

The CSPCWG is invited to review and amend the recommendation as necessary.