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Paper for Consideration by CSPCWG

International symbol for footbridge

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Executive Summary:	Since CSPCWG is revising S-4 part B Section 300, where bridges are handled, Sweden would like to give attention to the absence of an international symbol for footbridge. National versions exist in Finland, Germany and Sweden.
Related Documents:	Official INT1s Finland Da, Germany Da, Sweden Db
Related Projects:	None

Introduction / Background

CSPCWG are at the moment revising S-4 part B, Section 300, where B-380 handles specifications for bridges. In Finland, Germany and Sweden there are, since many years, national symbols for footbridges. Since CSPCWG now is revising B-380 Sweden would like to propose an international symbol for footbridges.

Analysis / Discussion

A footbridge is a minor bridge, mostly found in city and harbour areas, being used by pedestrians and bi-cycles. Footbridges are also common connecting two sides of a stream or river or narrow straits. A footbridge could be a hinder for the mariner and it is always a clear landmark and therefore useful for orientation. In city and harbours areas there are, in many cases, a need to be able to distinguish between a larger bridge and a minor footbridge. In many cases these structures are so small that it would be inappropriate to use the ordinary symbol described in B-381.1 (INT1 – D22). At least in Germany, Finland and Sweden national symbols exist for portraying footbridges. If known the symbol is also complemented with a vertical clearance. Below is an example of a footbridge in Sweden and how it is symbolized in the chart.



Image 1 Footbridge in a nature reserve in the Swedish archipelago

The national symbols being used in Germany, Finland and Sweden are a bit different. Germany and Finland have symbols in the end of the line symbolising the bridge while Sweden has a more simplified version. See below.



Image 2 Three examples of national symbols for footbridge.

All three examples of national symbols above are intuitive for the users. While the German and Finnish versions have the benefit of clearly distinguish a footbridge from a jetty the Swedish version have the benefit of a simplified version not cluttering the chart with what could in some cases be unnecessary information, such in the example above.

Conclusions

Include a symbol for footbridge as an international symbol. Sweden proposes the Swedish version of the existing national symbol in order to introduce a symbol as simple and intuitive as possible.

Recommendations

To update S-4 B-380 as appropriate and include a new symbol in INT1.

Justification and Impacts

A possible introduction of a symbol for footbridge could be introduced in international charts gradually.

Action required of CSPCWG

The CSPCWG is invited to discuss the possible benefit and implementation of the proposal.