



CHART STANDARDIZATION & PAPER CHART WORKING GROUP (CSPCWG)

[A Working Group of the Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems – CHRIS]

Chairman: Peter JONES
Secretary: Andrew HEATH-COLEMAN

UK Hydrographic Office
Admiralty Way, Taunton, Somerset
TA1 2DN, United Kingdom

CSPCWG Circular Letter: 10/2005

UKHO ref: HA317/010/031-03 & HA405/004/033-01

Telephone:
(Chairman) +44 (0)1823 723343
(Secretary) +44 (0) 1823 337900 x 3656
Facsimile: +44 (0)1823 325823
E-mail: peter.jones@ukho.gov.uk
andrew.coleman@ukho.gov.uk
Date 27 July 2005

To CSPCWG Members

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: Charting of AIS on Aids to Navigation (further to CL 07/2005)

Sixteen Working Group members responded to CL 07/2005 and we thank them for their helpful comments. A summary of the responses is at Annex A.

As you will see from Annex A, a clear consensus has emerged from this consultation. Although most WG members could print blue symbols, significantly two could not and all but one agreed that blue symbols are not a good idea on paper charts.

We all agree to using the magenta legend AIS (upright for fixed aids, sloping for floating aids) as the principal method for charting AIS-equipped aids and a clear majority favoured also including the magenta radar/radio circle.

We were unanimous in agreeing that (when approved by IHO Member States) the symbols should be allocated the numbers S17.1 & S17.2 in INT 1, and the specification should be added at B-489 in M-4. A draft specification is included at Annex B. Please would Germany, France and Spain note the need to amend the official INT 1 (once approved), and of course, we will all need to consider updating action for national versions of INT 1.

I will now progress this work item by asking IHB to put the decision forward for IHO Member States approval.

Yours sincerely,

Peter G.B. Jones,
Chairman

Annex A: Summary of responses to CL 07/2005

Annex B: Draft M-4 specification

Summary of Responses to CL 07/2005

Responses were received from AU, BR, CA, CO, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, IT, NL, NO, UA, US(NOAA), ZA. (16 in all)

No.		Yes	No
1	Could your office print blue symbols on paper charts?	14	2
2	Do you consider blue symbols on paper charts are a good idea?	1	15
3	Do you consider that the IMO blue diamond symbol for AIS-equipped AtoN is appropriate for use on paper charts?		16
4	Do you agree that the magenta legend AIS (upright for fixed aids, sloping for floating aids) should be the principle method of showing that an Aid to Navigation is equipped with an AIS transmitter?	16	
5	Do you consider that an Aid to Navigation which is equipped with an AIS transmitter should be further highlighted with a magenta circle (same as a Racon circle)?	14	2
6	Do you agree that, when approved, INT 1 S17.1 & 17.2 is the appropriate place for the new symbols (17.1 for fixed AtoN, 17.2 for floating AtoN, similar to S3.1 and 3.6)	16	
7	Do you agree that, when approved, B-489 is the appropriate place in M4 for the associated specification	16	

2. Any further comments:

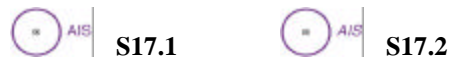
AU: The RESBL colour adopted by S-52 (light sky blue) on paper charts is not a good idea as it would be lost in shallow areas of the charts portrayed with blue tint and possibly if within intertidal areas as well. Even if the blue symbol has a white border in such areas, it would not stand out.

FR: The difference between the paper chart (idem ENC symbol) - and the AIS information display must be very clear. The IMO blue diamond symbol for AIS-equipped AtoN is also not appropriate for use on ENC display.

DRAFT SPECIFICATION M-4 B -489.**B-489 AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS)**

The Automatic Identification System (AIS) is an autonomous and continuous broadcast system, operating in the VHF maritime mobile band. It exchanges information such as vessel identification, position, course, speed, etc and can also be applied to Aids to Navigation. It is in this latter application that it may be useful to chart the transmitter.

B-489.1 An AIS-equipped Aid to Navigation (AtoN) may provide a positive identification of the aid. It may also transmit an accurate position, and provide additional information such as actual tidal height or local weather; details of these functions, which cannot be charted, should be provided in associated publications as appropriate. AIS transmitters on AtoN must be charted by the following symbols:



S17.1 (with the letters in upright text) must be used with fixed aids. S17.2 (with the letters in sloping text) must be used with floating aids. In most cases, the centre position circle (Fixed point - B22) should be replaced by the symbol for the actual AtoN, eg a light star or buoy symbol. If it is necessary to chart a 'virtual' AIS AtoN, where no physical aid exists, then the centre position circle must be retained.