

Technology Assessment Working Group (TAWG) Year 2001/2002 Report

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0. Introduction

The Objective of the CHRIS Technology Assessment Working Group from the Terms of Reference is:

"To assess the potential of present and developing information technology with respect to applications within the scope of CHRIS, and advise CHRIS accordingly."

1. TAWG Members:

Australia	Ron Furness	United Kingdom	Chris Drinkwater
Canada	Mike Casey	USA (NOAA)	Dave Enabnit
Germany	Horst Hecht	USA (NIMA)	Edwin Danford
Netherlands	René van Geebergen	MIO	Lee Alexander
Sweden	Göran Nordström	PRIMAR	Robert Sandvik

2. Year 2001/2002 Work Program

TAWG had four objectives for the year:

- Complete the assessment of the PRIMAR Security System as a universal standard for ENC security
- Develop a IHO Data Protection Scheme
- Review the technology status of high resolution Flat Panel Displays (FPD)
- Establish user group on e-Commerce
- Establish a user interest group on Print On Demand

3. Progress

Assessment of the PRIMAR Security System: Completed

At the CHRIS Meetings in Athens 2001 PRIMAR's security scheme, the PSS, was tentatively accepted as an IHO standard. This acceptance has come with the proviso that PRIMAR develop a roadmap to implement core changes to the PSS in the area of standards compliance. The Canadian Hydrographic Service, to accelerate PSS investigations, and to facilitate PSS HO, RENC, as well as ECDIS-side implementation, has developed a PSS Java based kernel. A report that describes the CHS experience developing this software is available at www.openecdis.org under the TAWG pages. The CHS PSS software is available to the hydrographic community for evaluation and study. To receive a copy, or to ask questions, please email [Greg Levonian](mailto:Greg.Levonian).

Develop a IHO Data Protection Scheme: Pending

- Procedures and implications for transforming the current Primar Security Scheme to an IHO Data Protection Scheme v1.
- Plan for the development and implementation of new version based on the experiences from international security developments and the use of public key infrastructures
- General discussion and exchange of viewpoints for amendments to the second version of an IHO Data Protection Scheme.

Flat Panel Displays (FPD): Completed

Sufficient technological progress has been made in the field of FPDs to warrant a re-examination of this technology as a substitute for CRTs in ECDIS. Currently the ECDIS standard only allows CRTs. The review is warranted by the increasing use of FPDs in mainstream computing and the resulting improvements in colour accuracy, reliability, cost, footprint size and availability. Progress in FPDs will impact the colour standard in S-52 which is now specific to CRTs. A switch to FPDs is seen as progressive and evolutionary by system manufacturers and end-users and under certain circumstances the FPDs outperform CRTs. A copy of the Final Report is available at the TAWG page at www.openecdis.org.

e-Commerce & Print On Demand (POD): Underway

Under the leadership of Dave Enabnit of NOAA, interest groups are being formed for both of these issues.