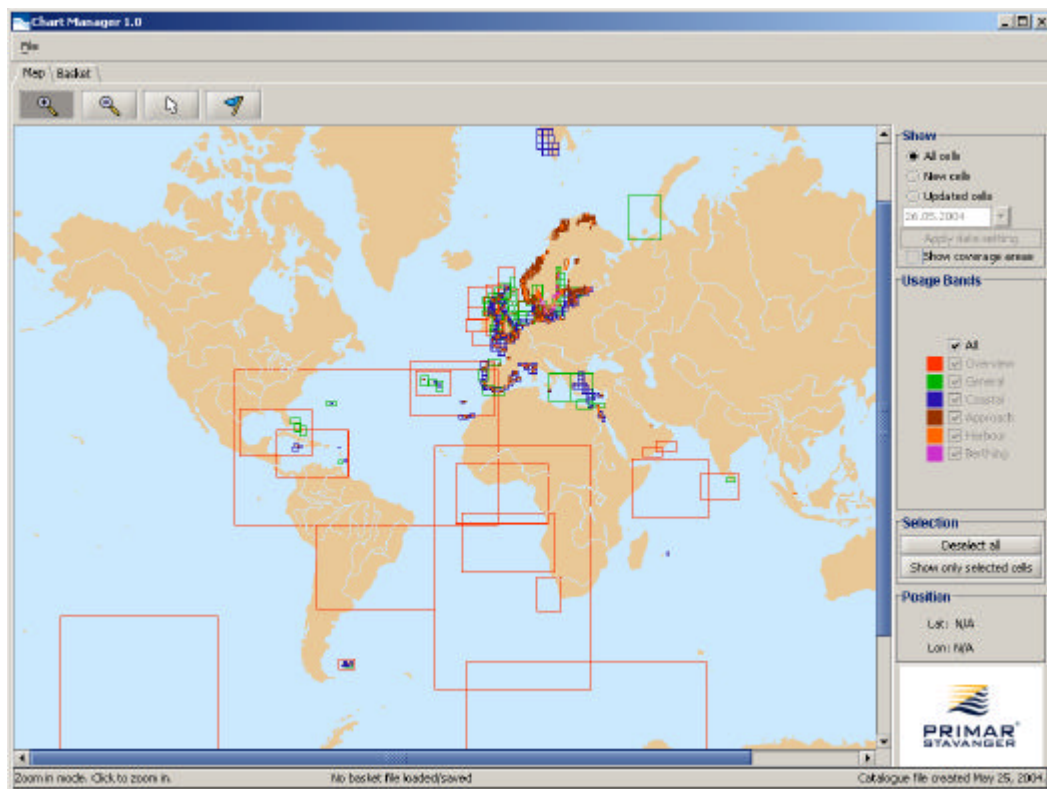


### Primar Stavanger Status Report

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Primar Stavanger (Robert Sandvik)
<b>Executive summary:</b>	Report on the work and status of Primar Stavanger since CHRIS 15.
<b>Actions to be taken:</b>	None
<b>Related documents:</b>	None
<b>Related projects:</b>	None

Primar Stavanger is operated by the Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) on behalf of its member states. The number of cooperating Hydrographic Offices (CHO) has increased to 11 with the active participation of Greece and Singapore. Primar Stavanger is in continuous discussions with other HOs about the possible inclusion of their ENC's into the service made available by the global distributor network.

The ENC coverage is also increasing steadily with the release of new ENC data from CHOs and new member states. The Primar Stavanger Chart Manager is available for download from [www.primar-stavanger.org](http://www.primar-stavanger.org) and will always display the current ENC coverage available in the ENC service.



**Figure 1:** Primar Stavanger ENC coverage shown in the new Chart Manager freely available for download from [www.primar-stavanger.org](http://www.primar-stavanger.org)

A total of 26 distributors worldwide are now actively selling and delivering the Primar Stavanger ENC service.

## **Operation**

Primar Stavanger is operating an effective virtual RENC cooperation. A range of services and utilities are made available to the member states enabling them to take full responsibility and management of their national ENC data during the (i) delivery, (ii) validation and (iii) distribution in Primar Stavanger. All services are accessible using a secure internet interface.

All ENC base cells and updates are validated for compliance with the S57 ENC Product Specification and to ensure consistency in the exchange set and ENC database build-up. Primar Stavanger has made available online validation utilities to its member states to improve internal validation processes. Primar Stavanger uses two different commercially available ENC validation software, its internal S-57 Advisor and Errors database, internal quality assurance procedures together with checking the ENC data in market leading ECDIS/ECS systems before the ENCs are made commercially available.

On-line tools are also available to the CHOs to manage the release of their ENC data and to apply ENC data protection compliant with S-63. The available utilities can be used by an HO to set up and deliver a national ENC service compliant with S-63, and at the same time also have the ENCs promoted and distributed globally.

## **ENC SERVICES AND DISTRIBUTION**

Primar Stavanger has been working actively in the recent months to support the delivery of integrated ENC services containing ENC data from multiple sources as a direct response to the discussions in WEND and to the outcome of the ECDIS conference in Singapore in October 2003.

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service has recently passed the IC-ENC VAR requirements and is now integrating the IC-ENC data with the Primar Stavanger ENC service. It enables the Primar Stavanger distributor network to market and sell the largest source of official ENC data as shown in figure 1. This will in addition to a 20% wholesale price reduction on ENCs among some of the Primar Stavanger member states will lead to an expected increase in the use of official ENC data.

As an additional effort to support the automated delivery of integrated ENC services, Primar Stavanger released end of May its new Chart Manager utility (ref. figure 1). It will greatly simplify the interaction between Primar Stavanger and our distributors since it gives the distributors complete control over its supply chain. The distributors can now securely on-line manage and register their customers and review their order history together with ordering S-63 Cell Permits without having to contact Primar Stavanger staff. In addition can all users use the new Chart Manager to view the current ENC coverage and status available from Primar Stavanger.

Primar Stavanger has also published an Application Programmers Interface (API), which can be used by those distributors interested in integrating their service delivery systems directly with the Primar Stavanger ENC service similar to the functionality in the new Chart Manager.

Primar Stavanger is also registering an increased awareness within the maritime community about the use of official ENC data. It has been followed up with a good increase in the number of vessels using the service and an increase in the subscription of ENCs. The provision of an integrated ENC service for European waters is also expected to have a positive impact on the use of official ENCs.

## **WORK AHEAD**

The IHO has on their web pages an ENC Chart Catalogue displaying the status of ENC production worldwide. In many areas around the world have ENC data been produced, but they are not commercially available. This covers significant parts in Asia, the Americas and also Europe. Feedback from our distributor network is still about lack of ENC coverage in many of these areas where ENCs have been produced.

Primar Stavanger is interested in working with Hydrographic Offices to share its experiences on issues like ENC validation and updating, ENC service provision, S-63 data protection and other relevant issues to increase the global ENC coverage commercially available for the shipping community.

As part of a concerted effort to promote the use of official ENC information has Primar Stavanger started to develop information on the Flag Nation status on the implementation of ECDIS regulations. It will enable our distributor network to provide better and more up-to-date information on national legislation and a distinction between the various types of digital data and official ENC data available in the market today.

Primar Stavanger will continue to work with its cooperating HOs to make the available services a cost effective extension to the operations within a HO and be an effective mechanism for an HO in the dissemination of their ENCs into the global market. It also includes the responsibility to support the national Navies with official ENC data.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about the Primar Stavanger services or to trial some of the services, please visit [www.primar-stavanger.org](http://www.primar-stavanger.org) or send an e-mail to: [info@primar.org](mailto:info@primar.org).