

**Paper for Consideration by HSSC 10****Creation of a New IHO Publication Classification Criteria**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	ENCWG Chairman Thomas Mellor and S-100WG
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	There are several current and proposed IHO publications that contain only guidance or best practice information. It is therefore proposed a new IHO classification criteria is created - G : Guidance Publication
<b>Related Projects:</b>	S-100

**Background**

The current IHO classification for publications does not contain criteria for guidance documentation. As such the IHO ENCWG are managing publications that are classified as Standards or Specifications but do not fit this classification criteria.

**Current IHO Classification Criteria**

*B - Bathymetric Publications (Mainly related to GEBCO)*

*C - Capacity Building Publications*

*M - Miscellaneous Publications (including Basic Documents)*

*P - Periodic Publications*

*S - Standards and Specifications*

**Discussion**

The classification of IHO publications should accurately reflect their content, unfortunately this is currently not the case. IHO S-65 ENCs: Production, Maintenance and Distribution Guidance and S-66 Facts about Electronic Charts and Carriage Requirements are both classified as Standards but contain only guidance and general information. The incorrect classification of publications could lead some users to misinterpret where a strict requirement exists and when it's a piece of guidance information.

**Recommendations**

To address this shortcoming it is proposed the IHO add a new classification criteria G : Guidance Publication

**Justification and Impacts**

There are several proposed IHO publications being developed that would currently not fit the classification criteria. To ensure we do not incorrectly classify these publications IHO should create new classification criteria.

The main impact of this proposed change would be to publications that reference IHO publications S-65 and S-66. If these publications were changed to G-65 and G-66 all the references would be incorrect.

**Action Required of HSSC 10**

The committee is invited to:

- a. endorse the proposal to create a new publication classification criteria
- b. agree to use G : Guidance Publication