6TH MEETING OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Hotel Marina Del Rey, Viña del Mar, Chile, 11-14 November 2014

Paper for Consideration by HSSC

S-412 Weather Overlay Project Update

Project Summary

NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) is leading the development of product specifications to integrate maritime meteorological services into Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS); these sophisticated electronic navigation and situational awareness systems are mandatory for many classes of commercial vessels. The development of these standards was deemed a high priority to enhance marine safety services during the 4th Session of the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) in May 2012. The JCOMM Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS) was appointed to lead the effort.

The NWS team has worked with NOAA's Office of Coast Survey to develop specifications for delivering meteorological information in the International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO) S-100 digital transfer standard. One advantage of S-100 over its predecessor, S-57, is the ability to incorporate new informational layers for the mariner. These data sets overlaid on nautical charts will provide mariners with route-planning and decision-making tools that are not publicly available at this time.

Activities Completed to Date

- October 2012 April 2013: NWS developed an initial Weather Overlay feature catalog
- July 2013 March 2014: Feature catalog reviewed by ETMSS (3 review and revision periods)
- December 2013 March 2014: Weather Overlay initial product specification document developed by OPC and reviewed by ETMSS
- April 2014 May 2014: Final draft of feature catalog completed, submitted to ETMSS for review
- *September 2014*: Applied to IHO for ETMSS to become a Submitting Organization (able to apply for an IHO registry)

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Current Challenges

- NWS Project management turnover- 2015
- Industry Collaboration
 - Final ECDIS portrayal guideline assistance
 - Database schema development
- OPC workflow development/data testing

Future Work

- September November 2014: Brazilian visiting scientist (portrayal catalog, publications, international collaboration)
- November & beyond: IHO Registry (Registry application, feature/attribute input into online IHO database and feature catalog builder)
- November & beyond: Database schema & NOAA/NWS workflow development