Paper for Consideration by S100WG

S-100 Edition 3.0.0 status and Path forward for Edition 4.0.0

Submitted by:	S100WG Chair
Executive Summary:	This paper outlines the status of Edition 3.0.0 and a way forward for the publication of Edition 4.0.0
Related Documents:	S-100 Edition 3.0.0, pending proposals to Edition 4.0.0
Related Projects:	N/A

Introduction / Background

S-100 Edition 3.0.0 is out for vote by the Member States via CL 15/2017 with an aim for official release in June of 2017. Because, S-100 is not a static standard and is constantly changing as different product specifications undergo development, proposals are continuously brought to the S100WG for consideration into the next editions of S100.

Analysis/Discussion

Under the terms of TR 2/2007, IHO publications have three types of editions that depend on the types of changes that are accepted by the working group. They are as follows:

Clarifications (x.x.X) - Clarifications are non-substantive changes to a standard. Typically, clarifications: remove ambiguity; correct grammatical and spelling errors; amend or update cross references; insert improved graphics in spelling, punctuation and grammar. A clarification must not cause any substantive semantic change to a standard. Clarifications are the responsibility of the relevant subordinate body and may be delegated to the responsible editor.

Revisions (x.X.x) - Revisions are defined as substantive semantic changes to a standard. Typically, revisions change existing specifications to correct factual errors; introduce necessary changes that have become evident as a result of practical experience or changing circumstances; or add new specifications within an existing section. Revisions could have an impact on either existing users or future users of a revised standard. It follows that a full consultative process that provides an opportunity for input from as many stakeholders as possible is required. Proposed changes to a standard should be evaluated and tested wherever practicable. The approval of Member States is required before any revisions to a standard can enter into force. All cumulative clarifications must be included with the release of approved corrections revisions.

New Editions (X.x.x) - New Editions of standards introduce significant changes. New Editions enable new concepts, such as the ability to support new functions or applications, or the introduction of new constructs or data types, to be introduced. New Editions are likely to have a significant impact on either existing users or future users of the revised standard. It follows that a full consultative process that provides an opportunity for input from as many stakeholders as possible is required. Proposed changes to a standard should be evaluated and tested wherever practicable. The approval of Member States is required before any New Edition of a standard can enter into force. All cumulative clarifications and revisions must be included with the release of an approved New Edition of a standard.

In the past several years, S-100 has only released New Editions, because the changes proposed to S-100 introduced several items that extended the standard. It is anticipated that the next round of proposals will at a minimum produce a revision, however, it is not out of the ordinary that a new edition might be published, depending on the type of proposals received. The following outlines a timeline for the potential publication of either revision or a new edition of S-100. The goal is to stabilize the publication of editions of S-100 to provide a predictable cycle for implementers of S-100.

Month/Year	Action	Notes
March/April 2018	Final Consideration of proposals for next edition	S100WG3
June 2018	Potential Submission to HSSC	Due to new IHO restructure HSSC moves to June
Early 2019	Publication of next edition of S-100	Either 3.1.0 or 4.0.0 depending on nature of proposals
March/April 2020	Final Consideration of proposals for next edition	
June 2020	Potential Submission to HSSC	
Early 2021	Publication of next edition of S-100	

Recommendations

It is recommended that the S-100 WG consider this timeline in regards to the publication cycle of the next editions of S-100. This will provide predictability for the submission and consideration of proposals. In addition, once the timeline is agreed to, it should be published under the S-100WG page for visibility.

Action Required of S100WG

The S100WG is invited to:

      a.   Note the paper

      b.   agree the recommended timelines