FOURTH MEETING OF THE WORLDWIDE ENC DATABASE WORKING GROUP (WENDWG4)

18-20 March 2014, Niteroi, Brazil

Paper for Consideration by the WENDWG

Update on the IHO ENC Catalogue

Submitted by:	**IHB**
Executive Summary:	This paper provides update information on the development of the IHO ENC Catalogue
Related Documents:	WENDWG3 Report, IRCC5 Report
Related Projects:	N/A

Introduction and Background

1. The IHO Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) catalogue has gone through several versions since it was first deployed. A priority for earlier version was to include Raster Navigational Chart (RNC) coverage information so that it would be possible to see what RNC were available in areas where there was no ENC coverage. As a result of significant improvements in ENC coverage however, it was decided to remove the RNC coverage layers from the catalogue.

2. The greatest challenge with building the catalogue has always been related to difficulties in get ENC coverage metadata. Attempts to get ENC coverage metadata directly from Member States, on a regular basis, in a consistent format, has proved to be very difficult and time consuming.

Current achievements and developments

3. Over the past few years PRIMAR has provided coverage metadata which includes cells distributed through the RENC organizations. As a result of discussion held during the 9th JTEWG meeting (25-27 June 2013 Taunton, UK), and further follow up discussions, the UKHO, agreed to make their full ENC coverage metadata available to the IHB. Using this data, the IHB has established an application that exposes the 6 ENC usage bands as a web map service.

4. The service includes ENC coverage polygons and the following attributes; ENC Usage Band, Cell name and Compilation Scale. The IHB has also developed a new java based web client application that enables the ENC coverage metadata to be displayed within a web browser (Figure 1). The ENC new catalogue application provides a few mapping functions (e.g. pan, zoom, interrogate attributes etc.), and also includes three different base map layers.

5. The ENC catalogue can be accessed from the IHO web site at http://www.iho.int > ENC&ECDIS > ENC Availability (Direct link). The IHB have also carried out tests to include additional layers the catalogue (e.g. port information), that might be useful to for analysis purposes.
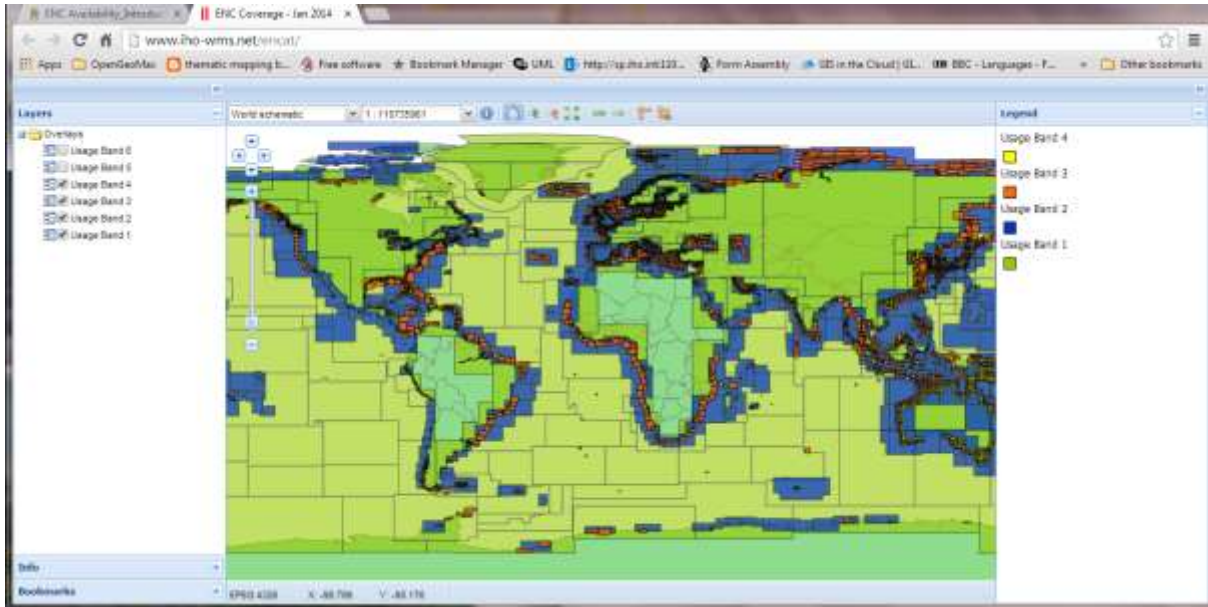
Figure 1 – IHO ENC Catalogue.