

**IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)
11th Meeting, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, 5-7 October 2011**

NATIONAL REPORT – NORWAY



**NORWEGIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE
(NHS)**

1. General

Norway has long traditions in scientific work in polar areas, both in Arctic and Antarctica. This year, in 2011, it is 100 years since our explorer of Polar Regions, Roald Amundsen reached the South Pole (Dec 14th 1911).

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) is responsible for the provision of hydrographic services for Norwegian waters and sea areas, including the Svalbard and Jan Mayen area.

In Antarctica the Norwegian geographical area of interest mainly is concentrated in Dronning Maud Land (Queen Maud Land) and the adjacent Kong Håkon VII Hav (King Håkon VII Sea). Peter I Øy (Peter I Island) in the Bellingshausen Sea and Bouvetøya (Bouvet Island) are also Norwegian dependencies. However, the latter is north of the 60 parallel.

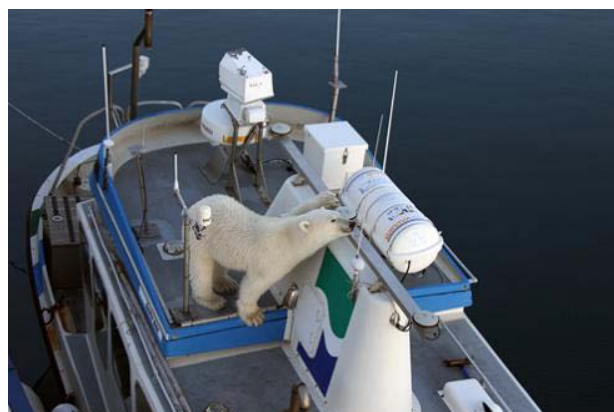
In 2008, Norway reached the goal of full ENC coverage for the Norwegian coast. Although this was a major step forwards, there still remains large areas with old data that needs to be replaced with new survey data. In addition, large areas on Svalbard remain to be surveyed and covered with ENCs and paper charts.

The NHS has established a fully digital production flowline and all new products and updates are produced from a seamless Primary database. A new chart production system that enables more efficient maintenance of the ENC and paperchart portfolio is fully implemented.

The NHS established a Tracing service in 2010 and Print on Demand service in January 2011.

PRIMAR International ENC service, operated by the NHS, now includes approx 10.400 ENCs from more than 40 countries.

In 2011, the NHS has implemented a new management and distribution system for high resolution depth data, called the Norwegian Bathymetric Database (NMDB).



Polar Bear on a survey vessel.

2. Surveys

The NHS is not carrying out any surveying or nautical charting activity within the HCA region.

Norway is still planning on building its first icebreaker. However, the status is as it was last year: the project is delayed and it will be operational at the earliest in 2013.

3. Charts and Publications

a. Charts:

NHS has, according to the INT chart scheme, produced one chart for Antarctica - **INT 904** (National No. 550) Dronning Maud Land, which was issued in 2002. The chart was published as an Overview ENC in 2008.

The NHS has undertaken the production responsibility for **INT 909** Ross Sea and planned to produce the chart in 2011. Contact has been established with NOAA in order to get access to bathymetric data. Norwegian Polar Institute will provide the land information.

The work has been delayed – due to other project given higher priority – and the new plan is to finalize the Chart in 2012.

The Chart of Bouvet Island, which is just north of the HCA area (54°S, 3°E) is close to be printed as a New Edition, as an INT-chart and with a corresponding ENC.

b. Publications:

NHS is not publishing any nautical publications for Antarctica.

4. MSI

Outside the responsibility of the NHS.

5. Capacity Building

The NHS is involved in the IHO CBSC, there is however little activity related to HCA.

6. C-55 Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide

The NHS has provided the IHB with updates to C-55, October 2009. There are no survey activities in Antarctica to report.

7. Oceanographic activities

Nothing to report.

8. Conclusions

The NHS has not undertaken any surveying or nautical charting activity in Antarctica since the last meeting.