



# UNITED KINGDOM NATIONAL REPORT

## 14<sup>TH</sup> MESO AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MACHC) MEETING

St Maarten  
9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013

This report supplements the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website  
(see [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk) → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report)  
and describes UK's activities of direct relevance to the MACHC Region.

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## 1. UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE (UKHO)

### UK Delivery of Hydrographic Services

1.1 The UK delivery of hydrographic services is described in the UK Generic National Report. However, it is worth highlighting the close liaison which exists between UK's Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and UK's maritime administration, the Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA), in providing a co-ordinated approach to hydrographic and maritime safety representation, both nationally and internationally.

### UKHO Governance and Targets

1.2 This is described in the UK Generic National Report, see [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk) → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report

### UKHO Organisation



1.3 Details of the UKHO's organization are provided in the UK Generic National Report (section 1) together with general contact details. Specific contact details relevant to the MACHC region are included at the end of this report.

### Production Systems

1.4 This is described in the UK Generic National Report.

### Cooperation and Partnerships



1.5 The UK is committed to the bilateral arrangements, which it has developed in cooperation with other international government hydrographic authorities, covering a range of topics, including the use of copyright data, and also promotes other forms of co-operation between the participants, helping to enhance international maritime safety and protection of the environment.

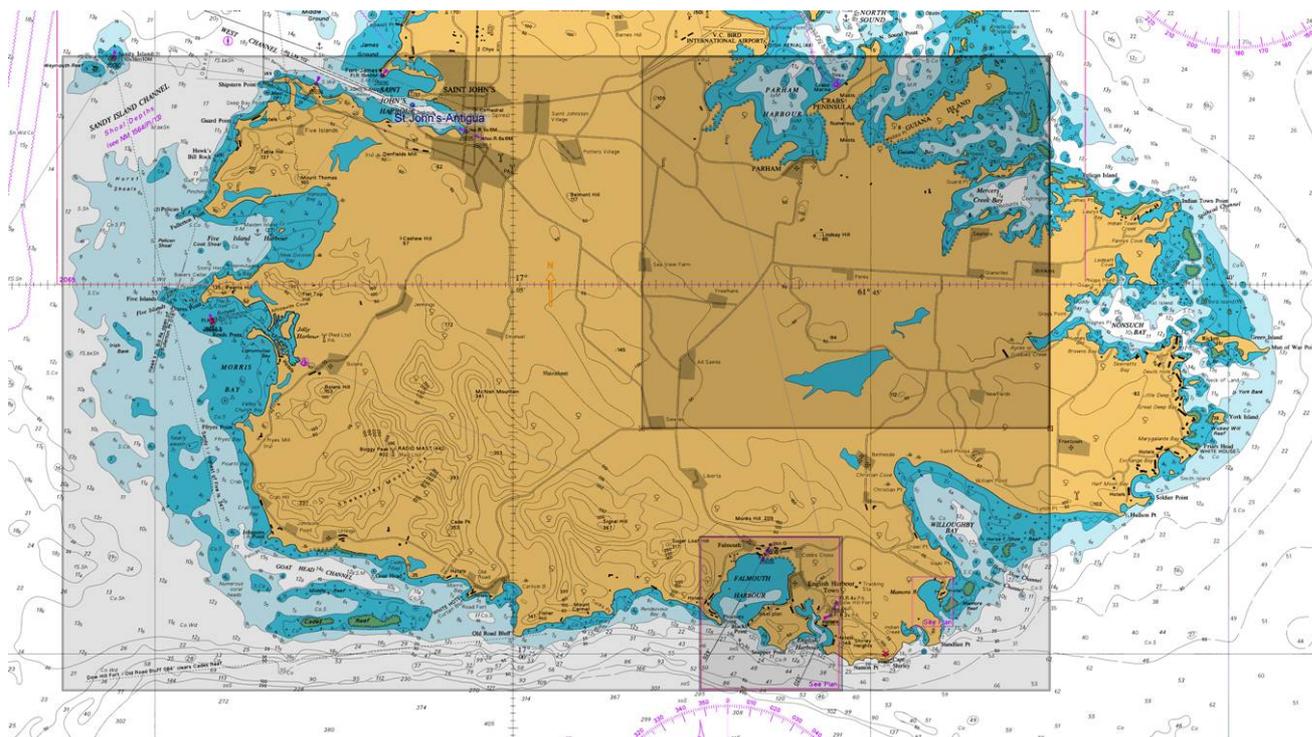
## 2. SURVEYS

2.1 Details of the management of civil hydrographic surveys in UK Home Waters are provided in the UK Generic National Report, and on the UKHO website. UK's National Hydrographic Committee (known as the Civil Hydrography Annual Seminar (CHAS)) meets on an annual basis and provides the necessary breadth of interests to ensure that all surveying requirements are taken into account when prioritising the work of the Civil Hydrography Programme (CHP). CHAS was expanded in 2007 to include a much wider range of

organisations, which conduct hydrographic surveys, and has been considerably successful in promoting co-operation between these organisations.

**2.2** Any requests for survey assistance from nations within the MACHC region will be assessed within the UK MoD, with advice from UKHO. UKHO can also contribute to project management of hydrographic surveys, and has a post dedicated to the phased development of new international survey activity and capability. It acts as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in direct overseas surveying schemes, including UK Overseas Territories and Regional Hydrographic Commission initiatives. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Sam Harper ([samuel.harper@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:samuel.harper@ukho.gov.uk)).

**2.3** In October 2013, the UK surveyed some areas of Antigua waters, which covered Cades Reef, English Harbour and Falmouth Harbour. These surveys are being used as control data sets to support the UKHO Satellite Derived Bathymetry trial, additionally they will also be used to improve chart coverage (Figure 1) for vessels transiting from Saint John's via Sandy Island Channel (surveyed 2012) and Goat Head Channel to English Harbour and Falmouth Harbour.



**Figure 1** The proposed Antigua new chart is to be published in late 2014 / early 2015 and is additional to existing cover at scale 1:25,000 and includes a new inset plan at 1:10,000 for Falmouth Harbour and English Harbour (to replace existing plan, Falmouth Harbour and English Harbour, shown on GB chart 2064 at scale 1:20,000)

### 3 CHARTS

**3.1** UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information relevant to the MACHC region.

#### Paper Charts



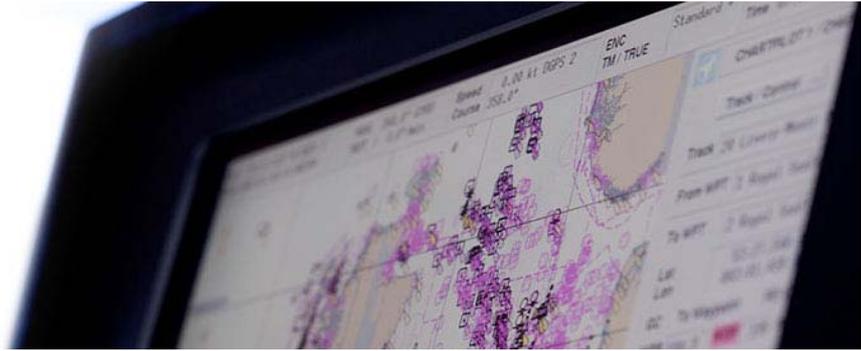
- 3.2 Information on UK's global chart portfolio is provided on the UKHO website. The following charts have been published since the last MACHC meeting as New Charts or full New Editions:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Published
1629		Venezuela, Ports and Anchorages on the Coast of Venezuela	22/11/2012
2261		Colombia – North Coast, Puerto Barranquilla and Approaches	24/01/2013
2497		Costa Rica – Pacific Coast, Golfo de Nicoya	07/03/2013
3841		United States – Gulf of Mexico, Pascagoula Harbor	11/04/2013
2496		Panama – Pacific Coast, Punta Mala to Punta Burica	13/06/2013
3183		United States – Gulf of Mexico, Approaches to Galveston Bay	20/06/2013
3187		United States – Gulf of Mexico, Houston Ship Channel Barbours Cut to Carpenters Bayou	15/08/2013
2195		Colombia – North Coast, Punta Gallinas to Bahia de Santa Marta	22/08/2013
398		Bahamas – Grand Bahama Island, Freeport Roads	05/09/2013
2626		Mexico – East Coast, Bay of Campeche	19/09/2013
3190		United States – Gulf of Mexico, Calcasieu Pass and Approaches to Lake Charles	19/09/2013
2189		Brazil – East Coast, Rio Amazonas – Canal Do Norte	03/10/2013
3151		United States – Gulf of Mexico, Approaches to Pascagoula and Gulfport	10/10/2013
3858		United States – Gulf of Mexico, Pass a Loutre to Dauphin Island	10/10/2013
3098		Panama Canal	10/10/2013
2005		British Virgin Islands, Road Harbour to Capella Islands	21/11/2013
2019		British Virgin Islands, North Sound to Road Harbour	21/11/2013
2020		British Virgin Islands, Harbours and Anchorages in the British Virgin Islands	21/11/2013
359		Mexico – East Coast, Dos Bocas Terminal	28/11/2013

The following charts are scheduled for publication in the next six months:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Provisional Date
503 <sup>1</sup>		Edition 1, Honduras – East Coast, Roatan (1:15,000) Roatan and Dixon Cove (mainsheet) French Harbour (continuation at same scale)	Feb 2014
1412		Edition 5, Nederlandse Antillen and Aruba, Ports in Aruba and Curacao	Feb 2014
1966 <sup>2</sup>		Edition 1, South America - North Coast, Punta Gallinas to Carupano including Isla Aves (1:1,000,000)	Feb 2014
2006		Edition 2, British Virgin Islands, Anegada to Saint Thomas	12/12/2013
2493 <sup>3</sup>		Edition 1, Ports on the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica and Panama Plan A, Costa Rica, Golfo Dulce (1:100,000) Plan B, Costa Rica, Puerto Golfito (1:25,000) Plan C, Panama, Puerto Armuelles and Charco Azul (1:25,000)	Feb 2014
2600 <sup>4</sup>		Edition 1, West Indies, Mona Passage to Dominica (1:800,000)	Feb 2014
3408		Edition 1, West Indies, Puerto Rico (1:300,000)	Jan 2014
Notes: (1) Including ENC's GB500503, GB50503A (2) Potential for a GB usage scale band 2, subject to consideration. (3) Including ENC's GB302493, GB42493B, GB42493C. (4) Including ENC GB202600.			

## Digital Charts



3.3 As noted in section 3.1, UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services.

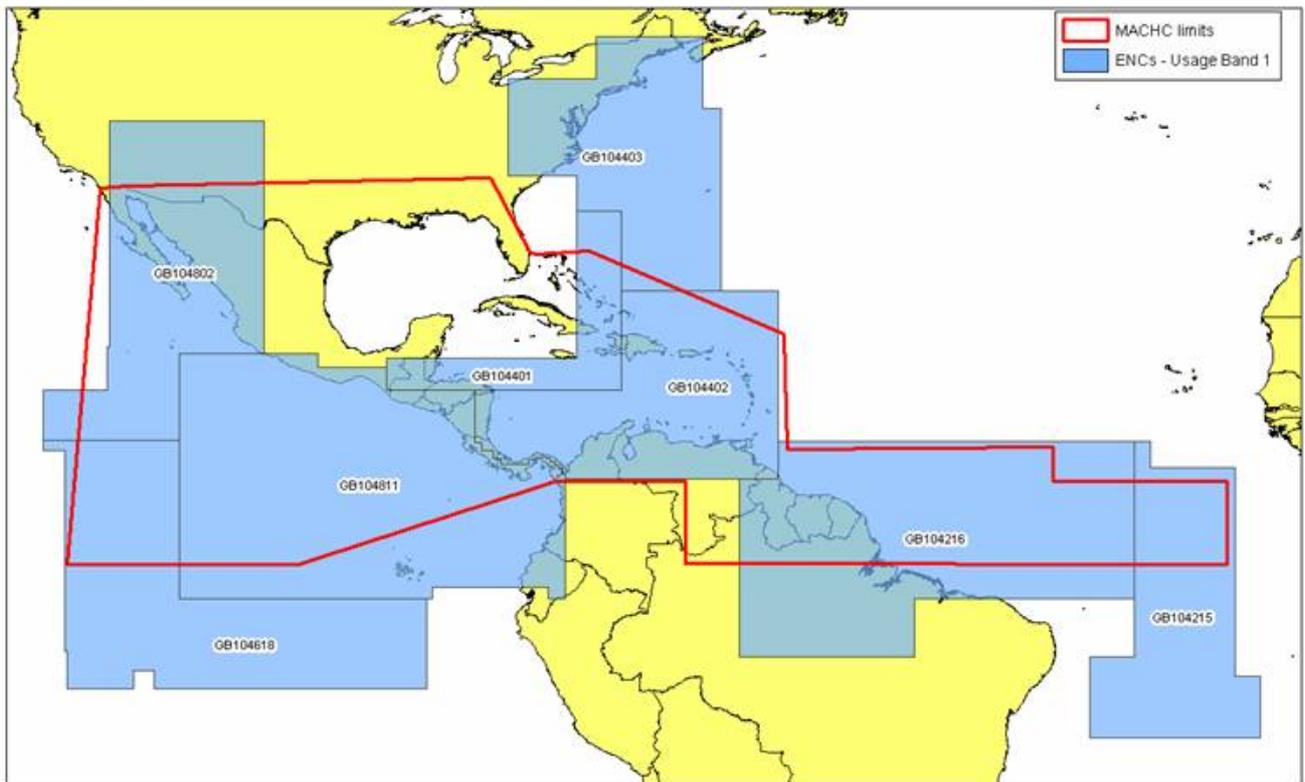
## ENCs

3.4 Within the MACHC Region, UK has published 189 ENC cells and 0 cells are in progress. The breakdown by usage band is shown in the table below:

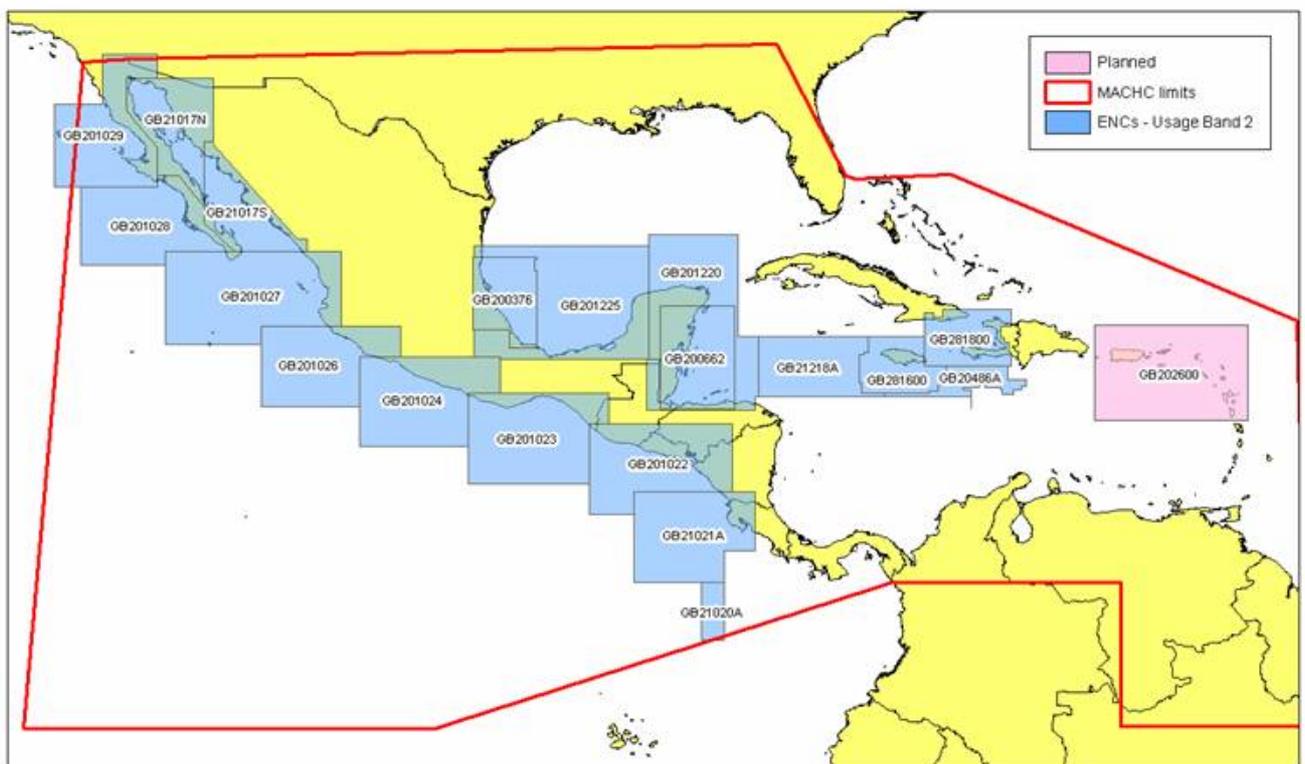
MACHC Region	
ENC Usage Band	Number of GB ENC's
Usage Band 1	8
Usage Band 2	19
Usage Band 3	38
Usage Band 4	52
Usage Band 5	72
Usage Band 6	0
Total Number of ENC'S	189

Planned cells are GB202600, GB302493, GB42493C, GB42493B, GB500503, GB50503A  
The diagram below shows the current coverage of UK ENC's within the MACHC Region.

## MACHC - Usage Band 1 GB ENC Coverage



## MACHC - Usage Band 2 GB ENC Coverage





NP5	South America Pilot Vol 1	(17th edition, 23/2011)
NP6	South America Pilot Vol 2	(18th edition, 50/2011)
NP7	South America Pilot Vol 3	(11th edition, 07/2013)
NP7A	South America Pilot Vol 4	(6th edition, 20/2013)
NP8	Pacific Coasts of Central America & United States Pilot	(13th edition, 38/2013)
NP69A	East Coasts of Central America & Gulf of Mexico Pilot	(6th edition, 23/2012)
NP70	West Indies Pilot Vol 1	(5th edition, 18/2012)
NP71	West Indies Pilot Vol 2	(17th edition, 50/2012)
New Editions to be published in next twelve months		
NP 5	South America Pilot Vol 1	(18th edition, due July 2014)

These publications are all maintained on a continuous revision cycle.

#### 4.2 Digital Publications



The UKHO continues to develop digital equivalents to its existing paper publications; these have advantages to the mariner of providing additional functionality and minimising the task of updating.

**4.3** The Admiralty digital catalogue may be downloaded free from the UKHO website ([www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk)); it includes details of all paper and digital charts and publications and is updated weekly. It is a useful tool to check the ENC coverage within the region and to show the latest edition dates of both charts and publications.

### 5. MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION



**5.1** The UK's principal responsibility within the MACHC region is for its British Overseas Territories (BOT's – namely Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks & Caicos Islands), and those Commonwealth of Nations countries where the United Kingdom is the primary charting authority, including Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St.Kitts & Nevis, St.Vincent & The Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago. UK maintains close liaison with the NAVAREA Co-ordinators for NAVAREAs IV and XII which cover the MACHC area. Any information received at UKHO which requires urgent promulgation is passed to NAVAREAs IV or XII co-ordinators.

**5.2** With the exception of the USA, GMDSS coverage in the MACHC region is generally sparse and administrations should be encouraged to develop their capabilities and infrastructure and to provide at least Phase One hydrographic capability to promulgate MSI in a timely and efficient manner. This can be achieved by utilising existing (or establishing new) National Co-ordinators for MSI within each littoral state in the region and fostering direct liaison with NAVAREA Co-ordinators for Navigational Warnings and with Regional Hydrographic Offices.

**5.3** The UK provided one of two instructors at a Maritime Safety Information (MSI) Training Course for countries in the MACHC Area in Trinidad 20-22 May 2013. The training was conducted on behalf of the IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee (CBSC) and the IHO's World-Wide Navigational Warning Service – Sub Committee (WWNWS-SC).

**5.4** The current Admiralty weekly Notices to Mariners are planned to be supplemented by daily updates and will be available on UKHO website from January 2014 onwards.

## **6. C-55 LATEST UPDATE**

**6.1** As described in the UK Generic National Report, the UKHO is committed to providing regular updates to the C-55 entries for UK Home Waters and its Overseas Territories, including Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and Turks & Caicos Islands, all within the MACHC area. For the latest update see C-55; we have incorporated the additional breakdown of chart coverage (percentage of metric and WGS84 charts), as requested in IHO Circular Letter 102/2008.

**6.2** UK has also provided assistance to update C-55 entries to other countries, including Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & The Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago, where the UKHO provides primary charting, recognising that local input remains critical to the maintenance of C-55 as an up-to-date and authoritative reference document.

## **7. CAPACITY BUILDING**

**7.1** UK fully supports the IHO CBSC strategy and particularly its emphasis on getting Phase 1 and appropriate Phase 2 capacity in place to enable coastal states to meet their obligations under SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 4 and 9. UK will continue to contribute resources to both CBSC initiatives and to providing bilateral assistance.

**7.2** UK has participated in numerous technical visits and workshops, in several RHC regions. In the MACHC region UKHO conducted a technical visit to Guyana in January 2013. In May (20-22nd) UKHO provided a trainer (along with NGA) to deliver a 3-day Regional Training Course on Marine Safety Information (MSI) in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. This course was sponsored by the IHO and Dr Keith Miller and his team were responsible for all local arrangements. The following MACHC nations participated - Antigua & Barbuda, Costa Rica, Dominica, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, St Kitts & Nevis, St Vincent & Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago.

**7.3** UKHO has a post dedicated to capacity building. Its key aims are to ensure that capacity building is properly considered in UKHO activity and that UKHO's capacity building activities are fully coordinated. It acts as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in capacity building activities, including UK involvement in regional hydrographic commission initiatives and IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee (CBSC) activities. It will have a particular responsibility for UK Overseas Territories and liaison with UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with overseas High Commissions to generate phased development of capability and new survey activity. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Jeff Bryant ([jeff.bryant@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:jeff.bryant@ukho.gov.uk)). Mr. Bryant is the Capacity Building Coordinator for the MACHC, SAIHC, NIOHC and RSAHC regions.

#### 7.4 Cartographic Training provided by UKHO



A general description of training provided by UKHO is included in the UK Generic National Report. Further details of the training opportunities offered by the UKHO can be found on the UKHO website.

#### 7.5 ENC Training and Assistance



The UKHO strongly supports the successful uptake of ECDIS using ENC, and is happy to assist other nations to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs. Details of courses, sponsorship, venues and options for bespoke training provided by the UKHO are included in the UK Generic National Report.

#### 7.6 Survey Training at Flag Officer Sea Training - Hydrography, Meteorology and Oceanography (FOST-HM)

Nationally and internationally certified courses delivered by FOST-HM in Plymouth, are described in the UK Generic National Report.

### 8. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

This is described in the UK Generic National Report.

### 9. OTHER ACTIVITIES

The IHO theme for the 2013 World Hydrography Day (WHD):

*“Hydrography - underpinning the blue economy”*

The UK WHD event was held at the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) in Southampton in conjunction with NOC, Associated British Ports (ABP) Southampton and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), reflecting the theme for this year “Hydrography – Underpinning the Blue Economy”.



A networking event, which involved subject matter experts and exhibition material, followed presentations by senior representatives from all four institutions which led onto an open forum session. Guests were invited from across the maritime sector to highlight the value of hydrography to the UK Economy.

During the evening, the Alexander Dalrymple Award for outstanding contribution to hydrography was presented to William Heaps (Assistant marine Adviser & Hydrographic Manager, ABP). William received the award stating he felt it represented all the good work done in the commercial hydrographic sector. The award is a symbol of recognition for outstanding

dedication and contribution to hydrography and as such is an extremely prestigious award in this sector. It takes its name from Alexander Dalrymple who established the UK Hydrographic Office in 1795 and is regarded as a leading figure in the history of the development of hydrography.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

The UKHO continues its commitment to carrying forward hydrographic activities through the work of the IHO's Regional Hydrographic Commissions, and notes that each commission has its own particular opportunities and challenges.

UK has a strong commitment to the Meso-American and Caribbean Sea region, through its primary charting and through its continuing interest in developing regional hydrographic self-sufficiency through capacity building measures.

The UK, through the UKHO and the national maritime administration (MCA), continues to pursue opportunities to improve access to bathymetric data gathering in waters around British Overseas Territories, particularly to support Caribbean Sea cruise-ship traffic.

There is a continuing challenge to link the scarce local data gathering resources into a broad programme of prioritised chart compilations and new editions.

The provision of adequate ENC coverage, in support of the IMO carriage requirement for ECDIS that comes progressively into force from 2012, presents a significant challenge in the MACHC region as well as others.

With a diverse range of shipping interests in the Region, improving the effective distribution of hydrographic publications and updates remains paramount.

Taunton, November 2013

## UKHO POINTS OF CONTACT

**UKHO Website:** [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk)

The general UKHO address is:

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