



Report of Nordic Chart Production Expert Group (NCPEG) 25th – 26th sept 2013. Reykjavík

Introduction

The Nordic Chart Production Expert Group (NCPEG) was established at NHC-53 in Helsinki 2009. The WG has no permanent members but MS select their representatives to the meetings depending on the agenda. The participants of the last meeting in Reykjavik in September 2013 were:

Denmark: Peter Ladegaard Sørensen
Iceland: Árni Þór Vésteinsson, Níels Bjarki Finsen
Norway: Kjetil Wirak
Sweden: Hans Engberg, Lisa Johansson
Apologies:
Finland: Teppo Kuusijärvi

NCPEG meeting in August 2013 in Reykjavik.

The meeting discussed many important topics, which are briefed below but the Minutes of the meeting gives more details.

MS introduced their chart procedures.

All MS introduced their chart production procedures and current practices of producing charts and publications within the Nordic HO's. All Nordic countries have data exchange in some extend between the other Nordic countries.

Denmark: All data from The Danish Geodata Agency (GST) are now available for commercial and non-commercial purposes - free of charge. This includes topographic data (maps), the cadastral map and the Danish Elevation Model, but **NOT** hydrographic data.

GST sends enquiries every year to all harbour authorities to find out if anything has changed.

Iceland: Number of staff has decreased in cartographic section from 6 to 4. These 4 do all the charts and other nautical publications, plus other work for the Coast Guard. ICG publishes 78 charts and 70 ENC cells and maintained in CARIS.

Norway: In total 208 charts produced and maintained in dKart. There are still 29 analogue charts. Print on Demand, 193 charts in portfolio. They are printed at 10 locations. 1077 ENC cells are published. More information is on ENCs than on paper. Paper charts are derived from ENC's. Drying heights are being changed from grey to green.

Sweden: The agreed harmonization according to IHO S4 has been fully implemented and almost all Swedish paper charts are INT-charts. ENC and Paper charts are compiled from the same database. The database is seamless. Approximately 120 paper charts and 564 ENC cells are published. Sweden is looking for a new production system to replace their current one. New vertical datum will be adopted in Sweden in 2020.



Iceland raised the question on how the Nordic HO's are calculating depth contours. An action was agreed on.

Action 1: MS to inform each other on how depth contours are calculated. E.g. 30 and 50 m depth contours. Are they calculated to the exact numerical value of the contour or e.g. 30.99 and 50.99 due to the rounding of soundings?

Harmonization of depth information in the FI and SE ENC's: At the BSHC 17th Conference recognized the need to improve the harmonization of the depiction of soundings and depth contours in neighboring countries ENCs. Sweden and Finland agreed to form a working group on this matter. Many things differ between both countries. E.g. sounding density, SCAMIN settings on soundings and depth contours. Mismatch of depth contours, generalization of depth contours, non-equivalent depth contours and rounding of soundings.

Improved data exchange for chart production.

Sweden: All foreign data is taken in as S-57 data. They try to input all of the data from other HO's to the chart database. Sometimes it is decided not to show all of the data in the printed chart, e.g. not all of the Finish soundings.

Norway: Is not experiencing any trouble with exchanging of data. They are also getting S-57 data when they need foreign information.

Iceland: Has not exchanged any other data than pdf files to UKHO since the last meeting. Denmark pointed out that they had new information on Faeroe Islands that Iceland could use in their small scale charts.

Denmark: Is also using S-57 data when receiving foreign information. Denmark asked Sweden if they had any issues with them publishing Swedish data in their charts that had more recent information than the Swedish printed charts. Good cooperation is within MS regarding data in Kattegat.

Action 2: Denmark to draft an action regarding adoption on Swedish charts that differs from the Swedish ENC's.

Public access to nautical charts on the WWW

Private companies have bought S-57 data in Norway, Denmark and Sweden to make "nautical carts" on the WWW. This has not yet been allowed in Iceland. Private companies have also bought S-57 data to make charts for plotters to be used on sea. Everybody can buy S-57 data in all the countries, except Iceland.

Any Other Business

Marine farm: Iceland brought up the issue of marine farms. Both fish haven and shellfish beds are growing in numbers and not all of them have been reported to ICG. Norway use national symbols to mark the marine farms. Situation in Norway is good, but could be better.

Spoil ground: Iceland wanted to know how other HO's where marking spoil ground. Action was agreed on.

Action 3: Spoil ground area in charts. Are HO's leaving the area white or are they leaving some depth information inside marked spoil ground?

AML: Denmark has started producing AMLs. In Sweden another institute makes them, GUSE. The navy makes it's in Norway. Iceland has not made AMLs.



Fulfilling the law on handing over a digital copy of all published ENC's to the National Library

The laws in Iceland (and most likely in other Nordic countries) stipulates that copies of all printed and digital published material shall be handed over to the National Library (the National and University Library of Iceland). How are these requirements met in the Nordic countries?

Action 4: Iceland to inform other HO's on how they are going to solve these matters on handing over digital copies of all ENC's to the National Library. Other HO's to investigate if and how they are doing the same.

Documentation on production of paper charts and ENCs

Sweden asked if HO's have written down the procedure of producing both paper charts and ENCs. All the HOs have some of their procedures written down, but should have more. Both Sweden and Norway are ISO certified. Sweden HO is ISO certified for the full process, all proceedings documented. So most, if not all, proceedings should be documented.

Next meeting

If the same routine is to be used, the next meeting should be hosted by Denmark in 2015.

Notes after the meeting

Even though the meeting was good, the meetings can get better.

Action 5: For the next meeting, more specific topics to be put forward before the meeting, so HOs can investigate and present their views and thoughts.

Actions requested from NHC-58 Conference

- The Conference is requested to
- take note on this report
 - give guidance, if any, to the future work for the NCPEG.
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Following 2 pages include:

A brief summary of the technical platform in each country

List of Actions



A brief summary of the technical platform in each country

	Denmark	Finland	Iceland	Norway	Sweden
Depth information					Depth Information System (DIS)
	CARIS Base Editor		CARIS HIPS HYPACK	Primary DB CARIS Base Editor	SQL server ESRI ArcMap DISView Fledermaus WinEko (in-house dev. Software)
Chart Data Management					Chart Database (SJKBAS)
	ESRI (Gr)			Primary DB	Oracle 1Spatial
Paper Charts					Mercator Cartographic Publishing Solutions
	CARIS GIS ESRI (Gr)		CARIS GIS	dKart Publisher	MercatorPublish MapCentre PackEdge MerkatorServer BackStage
ENC					ENC_UTTAG (in-house dev. software)
	CARIS S-57 CARIS HOM ESRI (Gr) dKart Inspector ENC Analyzer		CARIS S-57 dKart Inspector ENC Analyzer	dKart Editor	Validation dKart Inspector ENC Designer/ENC Analyzer



1. List of Actions

All actions (except action 5) to be completed before February 1st

Action 1:

The countries to inform each other on how depth contours are calculated. E.g. 30 and 50 m depth contours. Are they calculated to the exact value of the contour or e.g. 30.99 and 50.99 due to the rounding of soundings?

Action 2:

Denmark to draft an action regarding adoption on Swedish charts that differs from the Swedish ENC's.

Action 3:

Spoil ground area in charts. Are HO's leaving the area white or are they leaving some depth information inside marked spoil ground?

Action 4:

Iceland to inform other HO's on how they are going to solve these matters on handing over digital copies of all ENC's to the National Library. Other HO's to investigate if and how they are doing the same.

Action 5:

For the next meeting, more specific topics to be put forward before the meeting, so HO's can investigate and present their views and thoughts.