



TECHNICAL ALERT No. 18-03

New International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) Standards for Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS)

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) on board Bahamian ships are required to meet the latest standards published by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) from 01 July 2018.
- 1.2. Bahamian ships that fail to update their ECDIS systems to the latest IHO standards may face a deficiency and/or detention, if found during a port State control inspection.

2. ECDIS software updates

- 2.1. Many shipowners were experiencing delays by some ECDIS manufacturers in meeting the revised ECDIS standards issued by the IHO which were to be implemented on 01 September 2017.
 - 2.2. The Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III) at its fourth session (25 to 29 September 2017), noted that some manufacturers had been unable to provide the required updates by 01 September 2017.
 - 2.3. Consequently, Circular III.2/Circ.2 was issued to advise Port State control Officers (PSCOs) to take a pragmatic and practical approach to ships that did not meet the updated IHO ECDIS standards.
 - 2.4. However, during the ninety-ninth session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 99), at the request of the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR), it was agreed that the IMO Circular III.2/Circ.2 will be revoked on 01 July 2018.
 - 2.5. Accordingly, the revised ECDIS standards will become applicable to all ships on 01 July 2018.
-

- 2.6. Bahamian ships that fail to update their ECDIS to meet the updated IHO ECDIS standards could face a deficiency and/or detention, if found during a port State control inspection.

3. Validity

- 3.1. This alert is valid until further notice.

4. Revision History

Rev.0 (19 June 2018) – First issue