

Press Release

08 October 2019

UKHO seeks views from membership bodies and end-users on proposals to better serve the small craft leisure market

Paper and digital solutions produced by licensees could be made available alongside Standard Nautical Charts

The UK Hydrographic Office's (UKHO) strategy for small craft is currently in development and we would like to hear from the community of leisure and recreational mariners to help ensure that it reflects their priorities and requirements.

Cathrine Armour, Director of Customer at the UKHO commented:

"This is an exciting time to be a mariner as our products and services continue to enter the digital age. It is important to us that we put user experience at the heart of everything we do. We began this journey on the basis of customer feedback and we have listened to our users every step of the way, as we seek to develop the best possible products and services in time for next year's sailing season.

"A solution will remain available to those who do not wish to operate digitally. As an alternative to the ADMIRALTY Small Craft Folios, there are established providers of both paper and digital navigational products in the small craft market that will continue to be able to license the data they need from the UKHO. Standard Nautical Charts will also continue to be available."

In response to the changing requirements of small craft users, the UKHO proposes to withdraw the supply and maintenance of ADMIRALTY Small Craft Folios. It is proposed that licensees will continue to meet the current needs of the leisure mariner, while at the same time being better-enabled to develop products that meet future and more diverse needs. It will also enable the UKHO to invest in improving the data provision including an increase in the frequency of updates.

We want to hear from leisure mariners on our proposed strategy for the small leisure craft market, which is why we are encouraging everyone to get in touch with their views. We are also liaising with the membership organisations that represent this community, seeking their expert feedback. Some of these organisations, such as the Royal Yachting Association and the Royal Institute of Navigation, are organising their own research, which is very helpful and most welcome. We look forward to learning from this feedback and ensuring that the needs of all users of small leisure craft continue to be met, with the goal of ensuring that they stay safe at sea.

Responses are requested no later than **Thursday 31 October 2019**. Correspondence should be addressed to products.feedback@ukho.gov.uk. Following a review of all feedback received, the UKHO will provide a further update on the next steps will be provided later this year.

ENDS



UK Hydrographic
Office

Admiralty Way, Taunton, Somerset
TA1 2DN, United Kingdom
Telephone +44 (0)1823 484444
customerservices@ukho.gov.uk
gov.uk/ukho

Find out more about our market-leading
ADMIRALTY Maritime Data Solutions:

admiralty.co.uk    

ADMIRALTY

Maritime Data Solutions

Notes to Editors

About the UK Hydrographic Office

The UK Hydrographic Office is a leading centre for hydrography, providing marine geospatial data to inform maritime decisions. We work with a wide range of data suppliers and partners to support maritime navigation, safety, security and marine development around the UK and worldwide.

We make location-based information available through ADMIRALTY Maritime Data Solutions, including our world-leading range of charts, publications and custom data sets. Our use of marine data and technology, combined with our expertise ensures we continue to innovate and provide a wider range of solutions.

We source, process and provide access to location-based information, ranging from seabed to surface. This enables our partner organisations to make critical maritime decisions – informing the sustainable use and management of the marine environment and supporting the development of the blue economy.

Issued by BLUE Communications, on behalf of the UKHO

For further information, please contact:
TeamUKHO@blue-comms.com
+44 (0) 1865 514214

To find out more please visit:
www.admiralty.co.uk



UK Hydrographic
Office

Admiralty Way, Taunton, Somerset
TA1 2DN, United Kingdom
Telephone +44 (0)1823 484444
customerservices@ukho.gov.uk
gov.uk/ukho

Find out more about our market-leading
ADMIRALTY Maritime Data Solutions:

admiralty.co.uk    