



MARITIME COMMUNITY SETS COURSE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECDIS CONFERENCE AS E-NAVIGATION TAKES CENTRE STAGE

October 14, 2009

The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) today announced that more than 300 delegates from the maritime community have registered to attend the 3rd International ECDIS Conference and Exhibition (IEC), hosted jointly with the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), at the Regent Hotel in Singapore from October 19-21.

Hosted by Melissa Hyak, co-anchor of Channel News Asia's flagship news programme PrimeTime News, the three-day event will explore the key issues around the transition from paper to e-navigation, following the ratification of the IMO's directive for mandatory carriage of ECDIS beginning in 2012. In addition, the conference will take a look into the future of navigation to see what technologies might emerge in the future.

Whilst the event is now sold out and closed to new bookings, UKHO and the MPA are running a reserve list for registrations in case of late cancellations. Any interested delegates or sponsors should contact the UKHO at emma.jones@ukho.gov.uk to register their interest.

The IEC event features a keynote address from the guest-of-honour, Mr Teo Ser Luck, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Transport in the Singapore government, and a welcome address from His Excellency Paul Madden, British High Commissioner to Singapore.

The speaker line-up includes representatives from both European and Asian shipping companies. Dave Elliott from Arklow Shipping, Capt. Sriram Rajagopal of Anglo Eastern Ship Management and Rob Grool of Wallem Group will all discuss their experiences of transitioning to and using ECDIS. Sean Crowley from Stolt Tankers BV will share how his organisation has achieved 14 months of cost-effective navigation.

Other speakers include representatives from national maritime organisations and Hydrographic Offices, training specialists, distributors and technology providers involved in the development of e-navigation systems. Rear Admiral Ian Moncrieff, UK National Hydrographer and Deputy Chief Executive of UKHO will speak on the topic of 'What's New for ECDIS', while Ong Hua Siong,

Assistant Director (Port State Control) for the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore will address the conference on 'A Contracting Government's Perspective on ECDIS'.

Other sessions will cover topics such as the future of ECDIS, safety at sea, electronic navigational training, choosing a business partner, managing the transition to ENC's, and 'Beyond Navigation', looking at the business and environmental benefits of ECDIS systems to shipping companies.

Hayley Jopson, Channel Management and Marketing Manager, UKHO, says: "We are delighted at the response and demand for the 3rd International ECDIS Conference and Exhibition from all sectors of the shipping community. The UKHO is dedicated to helping the industry manage the strategic and practical implications of ECDIS Mandation, and the conference will provide all attendees with a great opportunity to explore the issues with experts from around the world. I expect everyone to leave the event with a better understanding of what ECDIS means to them, and the value it will bring in terms of business efficiency and safety for those at sea."

Notes to Editors:

A full conference programme and full details of the conference and exhibition schedule can be found at www.ecdis09.com. The full list of speakers includes representatives from the following organisations:

- The International Hydrographic Bureau
- International Maritime Organization
- United Kingdom Hydrographic Office
- The Port Authority of Singapore
- Bahamas Maritime Authority
- Norwegian Hydrographic Service
- APL Co Ple Ltd
- Stolt Tankers
- Transas
- Anglo Eastern Ship Management
- Arklow Shipping
- MARIS Asia Pacific
- Wallem Group
- Nautical Institute
- Warsash Maritime Academy
- Singapore Maritime Authority
- The Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- e-MLX
- IIC Technologies

About UKHO

1. UKHO, which is part of the Ministry of Defence, has been charting the world's oceans for more than 200 years with the primary aim of providing navigational services for the Royal Navy and merchant mariners to save and protect lives at sea. In addition it also serves the small craft and leisure mariners and provides a range of consultancy services.
2. UKHO produces a worldwide series of some 3,300 paper nautical charts and 160 publications under the Admiralty brand and has a growing portfolio of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs). These charts are sold globally and used by nearly 70 per cent of international shipping.
3. UKHO is a Trading Fund which means it is a government agency owned by the MoD with the freedom to trade

commercially to generate revenue and cover running costs.

4. UKHO also plays a central role, in support of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, in discharging the navigation element of the UK's Safety of Life at Sea Treaty obligations for waters of UK national responsibility.
5. AVCS brings together Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs) from national hydrographic offices around the world and new ENC coverage produced by UKHO in co-operation with Foreign Governments to provide comprehensive, official, worldwide coverage.
6. e-Navigator back of bridge application will incorporate the current functionality of the well proven MARIS Maritime Digital services (MDS) which has been accredited by many ship-owners as the means by which they were able to transition from analogue to electronic navigation. e-Navigator will build upon this platform and include extensive new features.

Issued by Nelson Bostock Communications (www.nelsonbostock.com) on behalf of UKHO.

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