



## **The UKHO Leads International Navigation Event in Singapore**

*The UKHO stages second international event to provide shipping companies with insight into achieving smarter, simpler and safer navigation*

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The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office today announced details of its second international event to discuss the issues surrounding the transition to electronic navigation.

The event will take place at the Marina Bay Sands Hotel in Singapore on June 30<sup>th</sup> and forms part of the UKHO's programme to provide international mariners with timely information and practical guidance which enables them to plan effectively for a future world of digital navigation. The first conference, held in Hamburg in May, was attended by more than 60 representatives of European shipping companies.

In Singapore, the UKHO will bring together representatives from across the industry, including a number of local partners and marine hardware manufacturers, and be joined at the event by Parry Oei, Chief Hydrographer, Maritime Port of Authority (MPA) of Singapore.

With less than two years before the first of the IMO's deadlines for the compulsory carriage of ECDIS, the event will cover a number of the key issues mariners and shipping companies face in making the transition to digital navigation. The content will help fleet managers, marine superintendents and mariners to develop a comprehensive plan and schedule for the transition of their fleets.

Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Technical Manager at Goodwood Ship Management, who will be attending the event, says, "The shift to digital navigation technology and processes clearly has the potential to make a dramatic impact on the workload of our crew, and significantly increase our overall operational efficiency. Achieving those benefits across a fleet will require a detailed and informed planning process, so we're delighted to see the UKHO, whose services we have used on our vessels for many years, supporting the industry by providing access to timely information from broad range stakeholders. This event will help us address the key challenges in successfully adopting digital navigation."

The event will also offer attendees the opportunity to view a number of digital products and services including AVCS, the market-leading ENC service, and Admiralty e-Navigator, the UKHO's new integrated digital catalogue, product viewer and voyage planning tool.

Mike Robinson, UKHO Chief Executive says, "The UKHO has outlined a clear vision for the future of navigation. It is based on delivering innovative technology which supplies electronic data and intelligence directly to the bridge, but equally on delivering the information and guidance mariners and shore-based teams will need to make any shipping company's adoption of ECDIS a success. These global events are designed specifically to help crews and shore-side colleagues to prepare and plan for the compliance, technical and operational operational issues that may arise in the transition to digital navigaton."

As part of the proceedings, the UKHO will also invite its guests to join them and the Maritime Port Authority of Singapore in celebrating World Hydrography Day at an exclusive evening at the British High Commissioner's Residence. Here, the Alexander Dalrymple Award for exceptional services to hydrography will be announced, showcasing the individual who has made a significant contribution to Hydrographic Services in the maritime community.

**-ENDS-**

### **Notes to Editors**

Delegate places are by invitation only. Shipping companies interested in attending should contact Amy Tucker at [Amy.Tucker@UKHO.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.Tucker@UKHO.gov.uk)

### **About the UKHO**

1. The UKHO, a Government agency owned by 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 serves small craft and leisure mariners and provides a range of consultancy services.
2. The UKHO is a Trading Fund which means it has the freedom to trade commercially to generate revenue and cover running costs.
3. The 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.
4. The 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.
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 make the transition from analogue to electronic navigation. e-Navigator will build upon this platform and include extensive new features.

**Contact information:**

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