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Some information and explanations to the HELCOM/BSHC Re-Survey Database application

According to the HELCOM Copenhagen Declaration 2001 the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention committed themselves to develop a scheme for systematic re-surveying of major shipping routes and ports for the Baltic Sea in order to ensure that safety of navigation is not endangered by inadequate source information. As requested, the Members of the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC)¹ developed the harmonised Re-survey Plan, which was subsequently approved in 2002.

The database you have entered contains information on re-survey routes and status of the re-surveys in the whole Baltic Sea and in the individual riparian countries (metadata). The database and software application have been developed by the Swedish Hydrographic Office. The user interface of the database is intended to be self explanatory. When Sections are studied in details (List mode), additional information is displayed.

The database will be updated by the authorised national database operators in each Hydrographic Office. For the time being the geometry of the database will be updated by Sweden based on the information received from the Hydrographic Offices.

This is the first version of the database and the user interface. They have not been completed yet and are not error free. Some inconsistencies in the information still exist and some metadata (attribute values) of the Sections are missing. The harmonisation of these may need decisions by other bodies than the Hydrographic Offices. Both the database and the interface are planned to be further enhanced and developed.

Annex 1 contains some additional information on the database application for those who may wish to establish a similar service.

References: *HELCOM Copenhagen Declaration 2001*
(http://www.helcom.fi/stc/files/shipping/DK_Declaration.pdf)

HELCOM/BSHC Re-Survey Plan
(www.iho.int > Regional Hydrographic Commissions > Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission > Harmonised Re-survey Plan)

IMO NAV 51/Inf.7
(www.imo.org > Documents)

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¹ The members of the BSHC are the Hydrographic Offices in the HELCOM countries: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden.

Annex: Information of the HELCOM/BSHC Re-survey database application

Swedish Hydrographic Office has given the following information on the database application:

The "HELCOM Re-Survey site" application was built by and is in its current version maintained by the Swedish Maritime Administration. The application which presents itself as a web service may be divided into three technical parts.

- All the information about individual survey sections is stored and managed in a SQL Server database.
- The web map interface is served by a commercial product "Spatial Ace Web Map Server" from a company called Carmenta. www.carmenta.se
- All the business logic needed to connect the database with the user interface and the user interface itself has been developed by Carmenta specifically for this application.

To establish a similar service based on the experience and modules made in this project we suggest contacting the Carmenta company directly:

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