



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 933 of 5th August 2026

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Electronic chart display and information systems
Reference	ECDIS S-100 Products

Development of Guidance to Establish a Framework for Data Distribution and Global IP-based Connectivity between Shore-Based Facilities and Ships for ECDIS S-100 Products (2.12) and Operational Guidance for Route Exchange

Under resolution MSC.530(106)/Rev.1, S-100 capable electronic chart display and information systems (ECDIS) may be installed on a voluntary basis from 1 January 2026 and will become mandatory for all new installations from 1 January 2029. To support the transition to new S-100 products, the IMO has recognized the need for a robust framework enabling secure and standardized IP-based data exchange between shore-based facilities and ships. This framework allows for the real-time integration of hydrographic, environmental and navigational safety information, enhancing situational awareness and supporting improved operational efficiency. Based on previous technical work, the Sub-Committee finalized two draft MSC circulars outlining the new digital framework:

- **Framework for data distribution (IP-based connectivity):** This circular provides goal-based guidance on establishing secure, global IP-based connectivity for S-100 products. The guidance also emphasizes the necessity of cybersecurity measures, including network separation, to protect onboard systems from external threats. It was clarified that there are currently no mandatory carriage requirements for ships to have IP-based connectivity or continuous internet access.
- **Operational Guidance for digital route exchange:** This circular promotes the safe and efficient sharing of route plans between ships and shore-based services. It is noted that digital route exchange is entirely voluntary and does not replace mandatory reporting requirements.

Moreover, the Sub-Committee reviewed a list of identified elements associated with the implementation of S-100 capable ECDIS and the associated high-level summary of elements and agreed that further work should be undertaken at a later stage under a new output. Therefore, interested Member States were invited to submit proposals to future MSC sessions.

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- MSC.530(106)/Rev.1, S-100

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