

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commandant
United States Coast Guard

2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE
Stop 7418
Washington, Dc 20593-7516
Staff Symbol: CG-NAV
Phone: (202) 372-1545
Fax: (202) 372-1991
Email: mike.m.sollosi@uscg.mil

16500

Ms. Josephine Washington
Product Manager
The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office
Admiralty Way
Taunton, Somerset, TA1 2DN
United Kingdom

Dear Ms. Washington:

Thank you for your letter of September 5, 2014, regarding authorization to use digital nautical publications on vessels. The U.S. Coast Guard will allow the use of these products in lieu of their paper equivalents to meet SOLAS carriage requirements.

Our criteria for approval are that the data in the digital publication be from an official source, that the publication is corrected up to date and that it be accessible on the bridge of the vessel. We also align with the SOLAS requirement that a means of backup be available. Publications that are required to be accessible in an emergency, such as the International Code of Signals and the IAMSAR Manual, will still need to be available in hard copy. Assuming they are accessible, digital publications from the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office meet these criteria.

Therefore, I can confirm that the U.S. Coast Guard will accept the use of UKHO digital nautical publications as meeting SOLAS carriage requirements.

Please contact LCDR Megan Cull, available at +1 202 372 1565, if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary C. Rasicot", written over a circular stamp.

GARY C. RASICOT
Director of Marine Transportation Systems
U. S. Coast Guard