Beta release (v0.6) Overview

Thank you for agreeing to test the latest beta version of the ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions software, which is being developed by the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) to enhance the way Sailing Directions data is viewed and used.

By participating in this beta test, you will gain access to an early version of the software and can provide feedback directly to us to help shape future ADMIRALTY products and services.

Please note: This beta version is still under development and therefore does not yet meet the requirements for carriage compliance. If testing the software as part of 'LIVE' passage planning activities, please ensure it is being used in conjunction with compliant ADMIRALTY Sailing Directions publications (via ADMIRALTY e-NPs or paper publications).

Beta Testing Timeline

This phase of beta testing will begin in July 2025 and continue until the end of September 2025.

The ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software will cease after the end of this phase of the beta testing. Additional versions of the beta software may be provided within the beta testing period.

Installation & Activation

To access the installation files for ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software please register **here**.

Once downloaded, the .zip file must be unzipped/extracted to allow the **setup.exe** file to work. Launching **setup.exe** file will open the setup wizard.

This version of the ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software requires activation before use. The following username and password should be used to activate the software:

Username: Beta06Test
Password: Password123

If you have participated in testing a previous version of ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions, please uninstall the previous version through the Windows 'Add or remove programs' tool before downloading and installing the beta (v0.6) software.

System Requirements

ADSD runs on the Microsoft Windows operating system.

ADSD will run on computers with minimum specifications meeting those required by the operating system. However, for improved performance, it is recommended that the minimum machine specification is as follows:

Processor: 2 Ghz or faster with 4 or more cores
RAM: 8Gb or more
Storage: 256Gb or more
Graphics Card: Compatible with DirectX 12 or later with WDDM 2.0 driver
Display: 720p (1280x720)

Data and Coverage

The ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software includes data for 24 ADMIRALTY Sailing Directions areas covering the key shipping routes from the United Kingdom to Singapore and China.

The data contained in this ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software is not fully up to date. Some updates to the data will be provided for this version of the beta software to test the ease of updating and display of updates within the product.

Not all data contained in the ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software has undergone final quality control checks – if you identify any errors or inconsistencies, please highlight them in your feedback to us by emailing ADSDfeedback@ukho.gov.uk.

Support

Support for the ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software is available from the UKHO by emailing ADSDfeedback@ukho.gov.uk (this inbox is monitored between 9am-5pm (UK), Monday to Friday). When reporting any issues with the beta software, please include a copy of the latest logs - these can be found in the settings.

Feedback

Your feedback will be invaluable as we continue development of ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions. Please send your comments directly to us at the UKHO by emailing ADSDfeedback@ukho.gov.uk – we actively encourage all feedback on your experience with the software, as well as any bugs or discrepancies you might identify, as this is a key part of ensuring we deliver the best experience to you.

We will also be organising a short survey to send to you to capture your experience, ideas and suggestions on how best to enhance the software, and any additional support or training materials you need.

Not Carriage Compliant

The ADMIRALTY Digital Sailing Directions beta (v0.6) software does not satisfy the requirements for Sailing Directions carriage compliance. The beta (v0.6) software displays the following banner to advise you of this: **'This software is currently in beta – the data provided is not up-to-date – NOT SUITABLE FOR NAVIGATION.'**

While you are encouraged to use the beta software to support your passage planning activities, it should be used in conjunction with an up-to-date, compliant Sailing Directions product such as ADMIRALTY e-Nautical Publications or ADMIRALTY Sailing Directions paper publication.

Still to Come

Functionality for purchasing and licensing are still in development and are not included in this release.

Quick Start Tips

Icon	Name	Description
Discover	**Discover**	*Index of Regions (Nautical Publications) and Ports improving user ability to jump to places of interest.*
Reference	**Reference**	*Includes information from 'Global Overview' – relevant across SD areas.*
Bookmarks	**Bookmarks**	*View and manage bookmarked information for easier future reference and to consolidate information for passage planning*
Recents	**Recents**	*Access recently viewed information, making it easier to pick up where you left off.*
Update	**Update**	*View update status of licenced areas (In development)*
Settings	**Settings**	*Configure software settings, link to feedback and access to diagnostic logs*
x Q	**Search**	*Powerful search functionality makes it easy to find places and information of interest.*
	Copy	Easily copy information to the clipboard for exporting into third-party applications.
	Show / Hide	Hides information on the geo display not related to the selected object – reducing clutter for easier viewing of information.
	Fly to	Centres the geo display on the selected object allowing immediate spatial context of information.