



**Data, Information & Customer Support  
Standing Committee  
Status of Action Items from IICWG-8**

***Co-Chairs***

***Marie-France Gauthier & Ari Seina***

***With thanks to incoming co-chair Keld Qvistgaard, replacing Ari Seina***



# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee Carry-over Action Items

**DC 6.1.2: Interoperable Data Formats - Survey/questionnaire to Ice Services to determine common denominator, e.g. What is the current capability for inter-operability?**

**Responsible:** J. Falkingham

**Target Date:** End November, 2007 for responses

**Status: CLOSED**

Initial questionnaire was e-mailed in September 2006 and was followed with a couple of reminders, most recently in November 2007. To date, responses from 8 ice services have been received.

John Falkingham drafted a summary report based on the responses received and distributed it to the IICWG in September 2008.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee Carry-over Action Items

**DC 6.1.3 Interoperable Data Formats – relations with ETSI and JCOMM:** Clearly define the objective of developing common data base i.e. seamless customer support vs. ice service interoperability.

**Responsible:** IICWG co-chairs & ETSI chair.

**Target Date:** See above.

**Status: OPEN**

*(I think that this action item has been a bit misunderstood in the past – it was talked around but the primary objective has not been addressed. I propose to provide a short paper to the co-chairs and the ETSI chair to close the action. This paper could be endorsed by the membership as establishing a direction for the IICWG. The paper would essentially expand on the following:) – JF*

The topic of interoperable data formats represents a long term, on-going issue to be addressed by the Ice Services. The primary objectives of adopting interoperable data formats are two-fold:

1. To improve customer support by issuing products that can be seamlessly integrated into our customers' business systems. The most obvious example of this is the provision of ice chart information in formats that can be directly imported into Electronic Navigation Chart (ENC) systems on ships.
2. To improve the efficiency of the Ice Service themselves by allowing a seamless exchange of ice charts between Services. With appropriate agreements, this would allow an Ice Service to use and distribute information produced by another Service thereby avoiding duplication of effort.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee Carry-over Action Items

**DC 7.3** Interoperable Data Formats – relations with ETSI and JCOMM: Follow through with the outcome of 7.2.

**Responsible:** Frode Dinessen (originally Marcos Porcires)

**Target Date:** None set.

**Status: OPEN**

(I can provide Frode with an update to these the status of this action) - JF

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee Carry-over Action Items

**DC 7.4** Interoperable Data Formats - Standardize the SIGRID3 implementation among ice centres.

**Responsible:** J. Falkingham, P. Seymour and IICWG co-chairs.

**Target Date:** December 2008

**Status: OPEN**

Several amendments to SIGRID3 were approved by ETSI on March 30, 2007 to harmonize it with the Ice Objects Catalogue Version 4.0 and other national practices. Several additional recommendations to improve standardization were made by the ETSI members and John Falkingham was asked to coordinate their implementation. (See ETSI Vision and Strategy for the Standards for Sea Ice Coding and Presentations, JCOMM Meeting Report 51)

No further progress has been taken on this action specifically. John Falkingham has been retained by the CIS to work on this over the next few months.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee Carry-over Action Items

**DC 7.5 (Plenary Action Item 7.8)** Interoperable Data Formats – Obtain input from a user group. Wim H. Jolles, Ice Advisor for Agip KCO, has knowledge representing his user group that we will solicit.

**Responsible:** Sub-committee co-chairs (Seina and Fetterer)

**Target Date:** 30 October 2006

**Status:** Closed

Wim has provide the draft to IICWG co-chairs during IICWG-8.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

**DC 8.1** Letter from Co-Chairs to the president of CSA from IICWG about RADARSAT-C RCM funding.

No money has been allocated after phase C. Suggestion to send copy of Economic Benefit Study to ESA & CSA along with letter expressing support to RCM, underlining importance of data to IICWG, and need for open data policy – CIS activities should highlighted.

**Responsible:** Co-Chairs. Draft of the letter: J. Falkinham and M-F Gauthier (drafts circulated in DISC)

**Target Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> draft 9 Nov. 2007, letter sent 24 Dec. 2007

**Status: CLOSED**

Letter was sent March 10, 2008

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

**DC 8.2** Letter from Co-Chairs of IICWG to the president of ESA about importance of free data to ice services .

GMES services for Europe have defined Fast Track activities including Sea Ice TAC. My Ocean Proposal; should the requirements of EIS be included with all the European Requirements. A.I. for EIS to review the proposal and decide how to proceed. Timeline to gather all requirements is before March 2008. This could lead to free data access. This is not limited to Europe

- CCRS and ESA have a niche agreement to supply data to CIS. Ownership of the agreement will likely move from CCRS to CSA. There could be rational to extend the agreement to include IIP, and then 2 out 3 NAIS centers would be covered. NIC is helping CIS in delivering Gov. Mandate. The niche is covering ERS/Envisat, perhaps it could be widened to include others.

**Responsible:** Co-Chairs. Draft of the letter: A. Seina and H. Tangen (drafts circulated in DISC)

**Target Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> draft 9 Nov. 2007,

**Status: CLOSED**

Letter signed by co-chairs and sent February 4, 2008 to Dr. Volker Liebig, Head of ESRIN and Director of Earth Observation Programs.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

## **DC 8.3** Ice analysis workshop.

International workshop will be held to senior ice analyses to do 1) an assessment of differences in chart production practices between ice centers, and 2) utility of charts for climate analysis.

Objectives, themes and expected results of the workshop along with draft agenda and invitation will be sent to the Ice Services.

Ice Services will recommend attendance as appropriate.

WS dates tentatively 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June.

WMO Secretariat will likely provide funds to prepare a report

**Responsible:** V. Smolyanitsky, Jurgen Holtfort and GCOS

**Target Date:** Letter to ice services 31 Dec. 2007





**Status: CLOSED**

Workshop took place June 16-20 in Rostock. Report will be presented during the meeting.



# DC 8.3 Ice analysis workshop

• **Primary objective of the *Ice Analysts Workshop*** was the assessment of differences between current practises of ice analysis and charting at the national ice services and to estimate accuracies of ice charts to meet both operational and climate needs.

• **Format Of the Workshop-** a series of case studies, presentations and round table discussion by 11 nations resulting in exchange of views and techniques used in ice analysis.



**Ice Analysts Workshop (June'2008)**  
Dr Vasily Smolyanitsky, JCOMM ETSI chair  
IICWG & GCOS experts



# DC 8.3 Ice analysis workshop

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## Overall Workshop Results

- Developed a set of criteria for assessing ice chart accuracy
- Developed a table outlining level of chart detail on ice chart products
- Developed a table to document data input (platforms and observations) into ice charts from historical to present products
- Developed a template to document the existing location and format of historical data and document the procedures used to translate past codes to current codes and formats
- Confirmed that analysis processes/techniques were common but would likely not be easily harmonized or completely standardized because differences in client requirements

# DC 8.3 Ice analysis workshop

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## Results Cont'd

- Concluded that the harmonization of ice services worldwide is also limited by lack of common analysis platforms and software tools which severely limit the rapid sharing of information ...which leads to duplication of charting efforts
- A release of JCOMM Technical Publication in October will summarize the technical and scientific issues of the workshop
- A comprehensive review of the workshop including all the reports, case studies and round table discussion reports is available at...

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/mmop/documents/Jcomm-TR/J-TR-43-IAW-2008/index.htm>

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

## **DC 8.4** IMDIS Conference March 30<sup>th</sup>-April 2<sup>nd</sup> Athens .

IICWG representative to attend the IMDIS Conference in Athens March 30-April 02 2008 and present paper on ENC. DICS is recommending that J.Falkingham attend.

Abstract will be submitted by December 1<sup>st</sup> by J. Falkingham.

**Responsible:** J. Falkingham

**Target Date:** 1Jan. 2008, 30 Mar.-2 Apr. 2008

**Status:** **CLOSED**

Falkingham gave presentation at IMDIS April 1. Presentation circulated to IICWG members along with a Conference Report.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

## **DC 8.5** Continuation of IPY web page after IPY.

The web service is running with Polar View funding. This is the only IPY portal that uses a single xml schema for the products. After Polar View funding must be found to keep it operational. A white paper should be written highlighting possible options including.

**Responsible:** J. Falkingham, V. Smoliatsky, T. Puestow

**Target Date:** 31Dec. 2007

**Status:** **OPEN**

A discussion paper outlining several options was drafted and circulated by John Falkingham. The item is on the agenda for discussion at IICWG IX.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

**DC 8.6:** WKT String data standard for georeferencing imagery in electronic navigational chart. It is proposed that WKT be used for sea ice imagery in electronic charts. IICWG to contact IHO Committee to see if the WKT standard can be adopted.

**Responsible:** Falkingham

**Target Date:** December 31 2007

**Status:** OPEN.

John Falkingham has written to the Chair of the IHO/IEC Harmonization Group on Marine Information Overlays describing the advancement by AARI in this area and requesting that WKT be considered as a standard format for incorporation of images in S-57.

# Data, Information & Customer Support Committee New Action Items

## **DC 8.7:** SIGRID-3 scripts

All Ice Services to post their scripts and brief documentation for SIGRID-3 production on the JCOMM Services website.

**Responsible:** Smolyanitsky & all

**Target Date:** March 2008

**Status:** OPEN.

## DC 8.7: SIGRID-3 scripts

All Ice Services to post their scripts and brief documentation for SIGRID-3 production on the JCOMM Services website

- Background:
- JCOMM services web-site (<http://www.jcomm-services.org>) is supported by the UK MetOffice and provides an opportunity for the met services to develop and maintain dedicated web-pages in 'wiki' style.
- Sea ice section at JCOMM services web-site is managed by the ETSI with administrator rights by ETSI chair
- After IICWG-VIII a dedicate section was opened for SIGRID-3 codes and samples and ice services were introduced for cooperation
- During 2007-2008 two ice services posted material at the section:
  1. CIS posted both scripts and samples
  2. AARI posted links to operative weekly ice charts in SIGRID-3 format for the Arctic Ocean and Eurasian Seas (Greenland, Barents...Chukchi, Bering, Okhotsk, Caspian)
  3. Other ice services are planning to post material at this

CIS SIGRID-3 code & samples - JCOMM Services Program Area - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.jcomm-services.org/CIS-SIGRID-3-code-and-samples.html

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CIS SIGRID-3 code & samples - JCOMM Services Prog...

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  - Services
    - ECDIS activities
    - Observation Requirements
    - Sea Ice Services
    - Sea Ice Charts
    - ETSI and the IPY
    - Ice Analysts Workshop-2008
      - Background information
      - Preliminary agenda
      - Local logistics
    - Sea ice standards
      - AARI SIGRID-3 code & samples
      - CIS SIGRID-3 code & samples
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## ISIS Coverage to SIGRID-3 Shapefile Conversion

March 2008

[Download SIGRID-3 Code & Sample \(save to disk and unzip\).](#)

The ISIS Coverage to SIGRID-3 Shapefile Conversion takes a ESRI coverage in CIS e00 transfer format and generate a SIGRID-3 specification shapefile. This conversion is done automatically on all production analyses produced by the Canadian Ice Service.

This package is a specially-prepared example for JCOMM of how the SIGRID-3 shapefile is generated. Rather than use Oracle tables, ESRI Info files have been created to mimic the functionality provided by Oracle.

The production environment at the Canadian Ice Service is HP-UX 11.23, Perl5 and ArcGIS 9.2 Workstation. This conversion will also run on Linux and Windows but the notes below were generated for HP-UX.

Several HP-UX environment variables are required to run this conversion utility. These are:

- ISIS\_SERVER\_HOME
- ISIS\_AML
- ISIS\_BIN
- ISIS\_LOGFILES
- ISIS\_WS\_TEMP
- ISIS\_SHARED
- ISIS\_DATA

Additionally, the standard environment variables of ARCHOME and SHLIB\_PATH should be set appropriately.

On the test HP-UX system, these environment variables are defined as:

- ISIS\_SERVER\_HOME=isis\_ops (this is the root directory for all programs)
- ISIS\_AML=isis\_ops/aml
- ISIS\_BIN=isis\_ops/bin
- ISIS\_LOGFILES=isis\_ops/logs
- ISIS\_WS\_TEMP=isis\_opstmpws
- ISIS\_SHARED=isis\_ops\_shared
- ISIS\_DATA=isis\_ops\_shared/data

Internet

# ISIS Coverage to SIGRID-3 Shapefile Conversion posted by CIS

<http://www.jcomm-services.org/CIS-SIGRID-3-code-and-samples.html>

AARI SIGRID-3 code & samples - JCOMM Services Program Area - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.jcomm-services.org/AARI-SIGRID-3-code-and-samples.html

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## AARI SIGRID-3 samples and codes

- [Ice charts for the Arctic Ocean](#)
- [Ice charts for the Eurasian Seas](#)

(Last) AARI ice charts for the Arctic Basin in SIGRID-3 format

> 2008

File	Size	Last Modified
-	-	Jan 01 1970 03:00:00 AM
aari_arc_20080110.zip	883KB	Jun 25 2008 03:04:54 PM
aari_arc_20080110_pl_a.dbf	12KB	Jan 10 2008 02:54:36 PM
aari_arc_20080110_pl_a.prj	0KB	Jan 10 2008 02:53:04 PM
aari_arc_20080110_pl_a.shp	1110KB	Jan 10 2008 02:54:36 PM
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aari_arc_20080123_pl_a.prj	0KB	Jan 24 2008 02:24:10 PM
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aari_arc_20080123_pl_a.shx	1KB	Jan 24 2008 02:25:30 PM
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aari_arc_20080206_pl_a.shp	1212KB	Feb 07 2008 03:23:20 PM
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aari_arc_20080313_pl_c.dbf	12KB	Mar 13 2008 02:25:52 PM
aari_arc_20080313_pl_c.prj	0KB	Mar 13 2008 02:25:45 PM
aari_arc_20080313_pl_c.shp	1169KB	Mar 13 2008 02:25:52 PM
aari_arc_20080313_pl_c.shx	1KB	Mar 13 2008 02:25:52 PM

Internet

Listings of AARI operative ice charts for the Arctic Ocean and Eurasian Seas

<http://www.aari.ru/resources/d0015/arctic/sigrid/2008/index.php>

<http://www.aari.ru/resources/d0015/seas/sigrid/index.php>

### AARI ice charts for the Eurasian Seas in SIGRID-3 format

File	Size	Last Modified
2008-07-30_02/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:18 PM
2008-06-02_04/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:24 PM
2008-05-05_07/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:29 PM
2008-04-31_02/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:34 PM
2008-03-03_05/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:39 PM
2008-02-04_06/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:43 PM
2008-01-01_02/	-	Aug 07 2008 08:11:48 PM