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OPERATING ANOMALIES IDENTIFIED WITHIN ECDIS

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-eighth session (24 November to 3 December 2010), was informed of anomalies in the operation of some ECDIS systems relating to display and alarm behaviour in particular system configurations. The anomalies were discovered by the inspection of ENC's within a small number of ECDIS systems and the Committee considered it possible that other anomalies remain to be discovered.

2 Given the widespread use and the impending implementation of the ECDIS carriage requirement, the Committee considered it important that any anomalies identified by mariners are reported to and investigated by the appropriate authorities to ensure their resolution.

3 In order to better understand the extent of the issue, the Committee agreed to invite Administrations to collect, investigate and disseminate information about ECDIS anomalies. The Administrations or designated bodies are invited to:

- .1 encourage vessels under their flag to report such anomalies, with sufficient detail on the ECDIS equipment and ENC's, to allow analysis;
- .2 treat the identity of the reporter as confidential;
- .3 agree to share information with other IMO Member Governments and international organizations on request; and
- .4 issue alerts to mariners where such anomalies might affect safety of navigation.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring this circular to the attention of all parties concerned and report on relevant information received and experience gained to the Maritime Safety Committee.