



International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation

Council 03 – December 2025

National Matters - Canada

Submitted by Ms. Antonella Ferro, Council Member for Canada

Transition of the Canadian Coast Guard to the Department of National Defence

In September 2025, the Canadian Coast Guard was formally integrated into the Department of National Defence while remaining a civilian Special Operating Agency. This change will strengthen coordination, improve information-sharing, and enhance Canada's ability fulfill both its civilian and security responsibilities.

Canadian Coast Guard will continue its vital work in aids to navigation, search and rescue, icebreaking, marine communications and traffic services, environmental response, and ensuring safe navigation in Canadian waters.

S-100 Testing Tool

Canadian Coast Guard developed an S-100 layers testing tool. This tool allows Coast Guard to test the portrayal of S-100 internally, as products are being developed in the Canadian context. It has proven invaluable in bringing awareness and understanding of S-100 in Canada, demonstrating the value of this shift to digital international standards.

Canadian S-100 Sea Trial

Canada completed a S-100 Sea Trials in the St. Lawrence River in Québec, Canada. The area was selected due to its diverse conditions and high traffic, providing an ideal testing ground for the S-100 route monitoring layer. There were 70 official registrations, including 7 manufacturers and 11 countries. Several products were trialed including:

- S-101 Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC)
- S-102 Bathymetric Surface
- S-104 Water Level Information for Surface Navigation
- S-111 Surface Currents
- S-124 Navigational Warnings
- S-129 Under Keel Clearance Management (UKCM)

The trial allowed Canada to assess the potential of S-100 products for safer and more efficient navigation, to test equipment, and to obtain feedback to refine and improve S-100 datasets.