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**Technical domain/ Task number** 2 …………………………………

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Canadian MRN Guidance

# Summary

In accordance with the IALA Guideline for management of MRN namespaces, the Canadian Coast Guard has drafted guidance for Canadian administered namespaces.

## Purpose of the document – Example of HEading 2 Style

The purpose of this paper is to provide information on Canada’s proposed guidance.

## Related documents

DRAFT Canadian Maritime Resource Name Guidance (see PDF)

# Background

The Maritime Resource Name (MRN) concept is a naming scheme that can uniquely identify any maritime resource on a global scale. IALA and IHO provide guidance on their respective namespaces and each Member State is responsible for drafting their own MRN guidance on producer level namespaces.

The draft Canadian Guidance has been published on the Government of Canada [e-Navigation Portal](https://e-navigation.canada.ca/docs/mrn-guidance) for review.

# Discussion

Sections 1 to 3 of the Canadian guidance relays guidance on the IALA and IHO administered namespaces. Section 4 describes Canadian administered namespaces guidance highlighting the use of producer level namespaces, the areas of application, and the reporting of assigned MRNs.

The first Canadian administered namespace identifies the Canadian governmental department allowing for decentralized management of identifiers by individual departments. In cases where a resource is shared by many responsible authorities an exception can be made where the first namespace does not identify a department or agency.

The rest of the MRN shall be defined by the responsible department or agency. The MRN identifier is hierarchal, and this aspect should be maintained in the producer-level namespaces. In order to maintain the decentralized/hierarchical nature as well as integrate with current Canadian standards, pre-defined systems of organization and naming schemes should be reflected in the namespaces.

When utilizing IALA namespaces the pre-established areas of application will be followed. IHO Guidance has established that an interoperabilityID attribute with type URN will be implemented in S-100 product specifications to hold MRNs. As such Canadian S-100 producers shall utilize the interoperabilityID to hold MRNs.

Canada will continue to follow guidelines put forth by the governing organizations regarding the reporting of assigned MRNs and adopt these to the Canadian context.

# References

1. IALA Guideline G1143 Unique Identifiers for Maritime Resources Edition 3.1 urn:mrn:iala:pub:g1143
2. S-100 TSM7 7.2 Annex IHO MRN Guidance

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Note this paper

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)