

Paper for Consideration by NIPWG

Request for rename of S-127 service feature

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Executive Summary:	Request for renaming of the localPortServiceArea
Related Documents:	S-127, S-131
Related Projects:	

Introduction / Background

A discussion ensued during S-131 pre-Layout subgroup meeting (14 June 2021) regarding a comparison between S-127 elements and S-131 elements. It was noted that feature type Local Port Service Area definition wasn't clearly represented in its name.

Analysis/Discussion

In an effort to harmonize the work being done in S-131 with what already exists in S-127 we began a comparison of the basic layout of the S-127 features. It was noted both S-131 and S-127 have services and a distinction was needed between which type of services are available in each product. While studying the S-127 localPortServiceArea and questioning if it should be in the S-131, its definition was motivation for requesting a name change so it is more descriptive:

Definition: A service established to provide port information without interaction between the customer and the service provider. This information could be inter alia berthing information, availability of port services, shipping schedules, meteorological and hydrological data.

This is really a "broadcast service", a uni-directional communication indicated within the definition by the phrase, "without interaction between the customer and the service provider". Although it is about berthing information and availability of port services this is really an area where the broadcast service can be received and thus it is a general mariner radio broadcast service area. The definition should also include this distinction within it to state it as "A broadcast service area..." (or "A marine broadcast service area"),

Conclusions

Our discussion on harmonizing S-131 with S-127 lead to a request to change a service name and clarify its definition.

Recommendations

Rename Local Port Service Area to Local Port Broadcast Service Area and add "broadcast" to service in the definition.

Justification and Impacts

By renaming and clarifying the definition of Local Port Service Area there will be a better understanding via the name of what the intended purpose of the feature area is. By updating the definition, it will be more clear on its intended use.

We propose this to be of medium priority, since it is helpful but not absolutely necessary.

Action Required of NIPWG

The NIPWG is invited to:

- a. endorse these findings and requests.