

If a Report of Survey is available for any data rendered to the UKHO, then a copy of the report should always be provided. If no Report exists, this document gives some guidance on the supporting information required to ensure that UKHO can make full and efficient use of any data received. With good metadata, processing delays are minimised, and navigational products can be updated faster, to give mariners the latest information and support safer voyages, SOLAS carriage requirements and give greater confidence on the bridge.

If you are submitting data from a single-beam echo sounder, it is recommended that the XYZ dataset passed to UKHO contains all the full-density data points.

If the data is from a swathe system (such as a multi-beam echo sounder), gridding the data to a suitable resolution (typically 2m) is recommended, but details of the gridding method used also need to be supplied. The UKHO also recommends using shoal-biased gridding to ensure that critical depths are not lost.

The preferred format for bathymetric data is a digital dataset. XYZ datasets should preferably be provided in ASCII format (latitude; longitude or Grid E; Grid N; depth), with details being provided in the metadata. However, the UKHO will accept survey graphics if digital datasets are not possible, and requirements for supporting metadata for sounding plots is also included below.

In all cases the data should be cleaned, with all unreliable data removed. If full-density data is supplied and is in a format other than XYZ (e.g. GSF) it should retain the erroneous data, clearly flagged as “rejected”.

For all swathe surveys; man-made features, such as quay walls & beacons, which are vertical and dry at all states of tide, should have all bathymetric data points removed from the vertical element of the structure, otherwise alongside depths may be incorrectly charted.

All survey depths need to be adjusted for tide. To be of most use, soundings should be reduced to the relevant local Chart Datum (CD). Preferably, observed tides should be used; the use of predicted tides should be avoided, as these may not be accurate enough. Where the surveying method uses GNSS (e.g. GPS) height and an appropriate tidal model, such as VORF, to calibrate depths, the need for observed tides may be negated. If large differences are discovered between observed and predicted tides, the UKHO’s tides team should be informed

This form details the minimum (critical) metadata to be delivered with data, and outlines additional supporting metadata which is of further use if it can be supplied.

For detailed advice regarding data formats, please contact the UKHO Bathymetric Data Centre ([bdc@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:bdc@ukho.gov.uk)).

For help with any item, select the field and press the F1 key.

**Critical items**

Please fill in all these items. These are necessary for us to evaluate the data

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Survey Start Date |  |
| Survey End Date |  |
| Primary Bathymetric Instrument Type, Make & Model |  |
| Primary Navigation Type |  |
| Horizontal Datum |  |
| Coordinate type |  |
| Projection (if applicable) |  |
| Vertical Datum |  |
| Reduction of Sounding to Datum Method |  |
| Resolution of Gridded output |  |
| Gridding Method (Shoal bias preferred) |  |
| Has the data been interpolated in any way? (Y/N) If Y, please give details |  |
| Details of XYZ file (e.g. E, N, lon, lat, depths or heights.) |  |
| Intellectual Property Rights, Principal Ownership |  |
| Do you agree to the data being made available to the public via the UKHO INSPIRE portal?  (Please note that unless otherwise specified, the data will be made available) |  |

**Sounding plots**

If data is rendered as a sounding plot or sheet (CAD, pdf, tif or similar) please add the following information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Scale of plot |  |
| Sounding label bias |  |
| Sounding label spacing |  |
| Sounding label position datum (ie – which part of the printed digit represents the true position of the depth?) |  |
| Has the data been interpolated in any way? (Y/N) |  |

***Please note that sounding plots/sheets should include a clearly labelled graticule in order to ensure that we are able to validate the positioning of the data.***

**Additional items**

Please fill in all these items where known. These will help us to evaluate the data. Where the answer is not known, please put “Not known”. Where item is not applicable or relevant to the survey, please put “n/a”.

**Survey details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Survey Title |  |
| Commissioning Organisation |  |
| Survey Company / Collecting Organisation |  |
| Name Of Main Survey Vessel |  |
| Principle Purpose for Collection Of Data |  |
| Classification / Protective Marking |  |
| Contact For Survey Queries |  |

**Data details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Survey Standard |  |
| Survey Category / IHO Order Achieved |  |
| Processing Software and Version Used |  |
| Unresolved Problems or Other Notable Data Issues |  |
| Wreck Data to Follow in Full RoS / H525? |  |
| Additional Comments: |  |

**Submission**

Please send completed forms to the UKHO, Admiralty Way, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 2DN, United Kingdom (email: BDC.Surveys@ukho.gov.uk).