

Meeting: 4th SSN / LRIT Group Meeting

Place and date: Lisbon, 23 October 2018

Agenda item: Central Ship Database - progress report

Document number: SSN/LRIT 4.4.3

Submitted by EMSA

Summary	This document provides an update of the status of the Central Ship Database (CSD).
Action to be taken	As per paragraph 3.
Related documents	n.a.

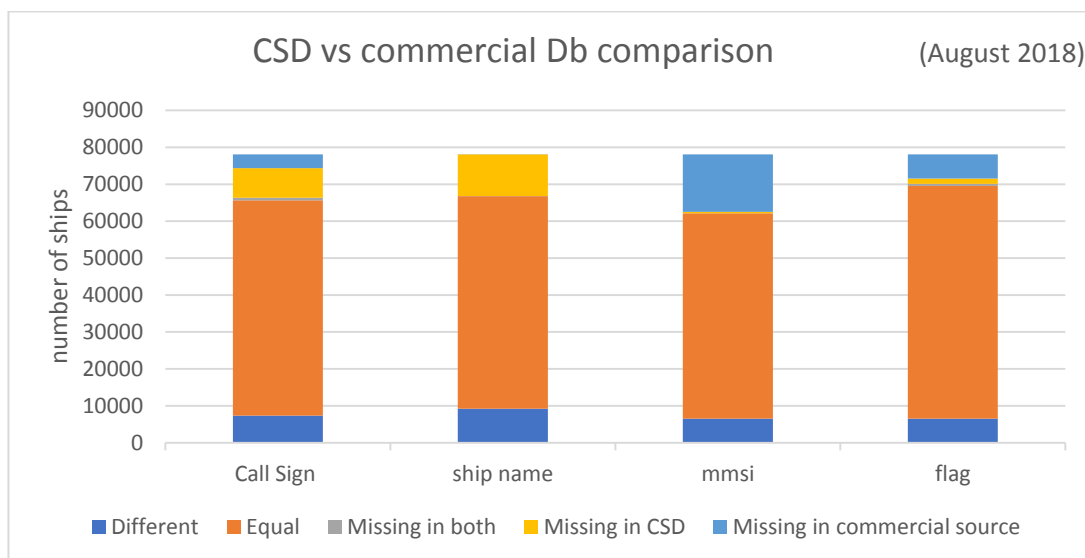
1 Background

EMSA continues the work on the Central Ship Database (CSD), with the aim of developing a reliable and cooperative source of information related to ship attributes for the benefit of Member States, EU agencies and EMSA applications. The CSD information is directly available to its users via a web interface or a system-to-system interface (NB the latter needs technical developments from the user side). This document provides information on the latest status of the database.

2 Current Status

EMSA performs regular CSD data quality analysis by comparing its content with commercial sources. During recent months, the tests have identified an increasing number of inconsistencies, as well as further missing data elements.

The following figure shows a comparison between CSD data and that in widely used commercial databases:



Some of the inconsistencies or missing data elements could be attributed to technical difficulties, so to overcome these, EMSA has planned technical improvements in SSN v4.2, which will be available at the beginning of 2019.

The CSD has also experienced reduced flexibility as a result of being included within the SSN architecture, so EMSA is planning to decouple the CSD from SSN in SSN v4.3, which will allow us to:

- implement CSD developments much faster, as they will not be constrained by the SSN schedule, and;
- build a business logic that is independent from SSN, therefore gaining flexibility in the design.

With respect to connections between Member States, Italy and EMSA are working together to carry out commissioning tests in order that their operational ship registry and the CSD can be connected.

3 Actions required

Member States are invited to:

- take note of the above information, and;
- develop web services to connect to the CSD (for providing and receiving information).