

Meeting: 11th SSN / LRIT Group Meeting

Place and date: Lisbon, 24 May 2022

Agenda item: CSD version 2 – progress report

Document number: SSN/LRIT 11.4.2

Submitted by EMSA

Summary	Presents an overview of the roadmap for developments in SSN, the central databases and LRIT
Action to be taken	As per paragraph 4
Related documents	

1 Background

Through the last 15 years, EMSA has developed multiple maritime information systems, such as SafeSeaNet, the Earth Observation Data Centre, the EU LRIT Data Centre, the SSN Ecosystem GUI (SEG) and ship position data collection and distribution systems, THETIS for vessels and port facilities inspections and others. All these maritime information systems rely for their operation on reference data such as ships identification information and particulars, location codes, country codes, public organisation details and codes lists.

To avoid that such information is duplicated in each information system in an inconsistent manner, EMSA has developed “central databases” which hold reference information that is made available to the maritime information services. Such databases include the Central Country Database, the Central Location Database, the Central Organisation Database and the Central Ship Database, which are currently in production.

In June 2019, EMSA launched a pilot project for the development of enhanced ship database services. The project aims at developing a Central Ship Database (CSD) version 2 which would offer reference information on ships identification information and characteristics to the EMSA maritime services and to national maritime systems of the Member States. 11 Member States volunteered to participate in the project: DE, EE, FI, FR, IT, LV, NL, NO, RO, SE and HR.

The project is run under the Interoperability project, which is funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Funds through a grant agreement signed between DG MARE and EMSA.

2 Current status

The concept of CSD v2 was developed in collaboration with the participating MS. It foresees that the CSD will aim at supporting MS authorities and EU agencies in the execution of their tasks (e.g. PSC inspections, vessel traffic monitoring, fisheries control, border control, law enforcement, customs). As the information from the CSD is intended to serve as a reference for MS authorities and EU agencies, it is crucial that it gathers information from reliable and trusted sources, and that the source of information is traced. In a first stage, the CSD should hold information on commercial ships and fishing vessels. Extension to other type of ships, such as leisure crafts, would be investigated in the future.

The CSD relies on the Master Data Management platform Tibco EBX¹. A first delivery of the CSD was released by EMSA in November 2021 for testing purposes. An operational version of the system (v2.0) was deployed in January 2022 and integrated with the following data sources:

- SSN (ship data from SSN notifications such as PortPlus, Incident Reports, Ship MRS and exemptions),
- LRIT CDC (ship data from the LRIT ship database),
- THETIS (ship data from PSC inspections),
- Fishing vessels record (information on EU fishing vessels), and
- The commercial data provider IHS Markit² (information on commercial ships of 100 GT and above).

The CSD currently holds information on more than 300,000 ships including more than 120,000 active ships. The remaining ones being either under construction or dead ships.

Since its launch, data quality is being monitored and the data consolidation logic of the CSD is being progressively fine-tuned. A further improvement of the system is expected for June 2022 (release v2.1). It will improve the data control mechanisms to offer a better reliability on ships identifiers.

SSN should be the first client of the CSD v2. SSN v5.2, which is expected by the end of May 2022, will be interfaced with the CSD to receive automatic updates of ship data and therefore fully rely on the CSD for identifying ships.

The next step of the CSD v2 project is to open it to testers of the participating MS and to collect business needs for system-to-system interfaces with national maritime systems. Tests with the MS should start once CSD v2.1 is released.

3 Action Required

Member States are invited to note the information provided.

¹ <https://www.tibco.com/products/tibco-ebx-software>

² <https://ihsmarkit.com/products/sea-web-maritime-reference.html>