

ILA-33

Tokyo, Japan

**NELS report**

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This presentation contains the views of the author, and it does not reflect official NELS policy. The steering committee of NELS will issue an official statement at least one year before denunciation of the NELS agreement, i.e. before the end of December, 2004.

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**NELS**

Northwest European Loran-C System Co-ordinating Agency Office

# Presentation outlines

- NELS status
- Loran-C in Europe beyond 2005
- Summary

# Northwest European Loran-C System (NELS)

- NELS nations:

Germany (Loran-C station Sylt)

France (Loran-C station Lessay and Soustons)

Norway (Loran-C station Bø, Værlandet, Jan Mayen and Berlevåg)

Ireland (Loran-C station Loophead, currently resting in peace)

The Netherlands

Denmark (Host nation for Loran-C station Ejde)

- The current NELS Agreement period continue until 31 December 2005.
- Withdrawal from the Agreement, needs to be noticed in writing to the Depositary (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)



**N E L S**

Northwest European Loran-C System Co-ordinating Agency Office

# Northwest European Loran-C System (NELS)

- Notification needed to be done in the period between 2 April 2004 and 2 October 2004.
- Current status:
  - All nations except France have informed the Depository in writing that they intend to withdraw from the NELS Agreement .
  - France does not intend to withdraw from NELS
  - Norway has informed the Depository that CAO will be discontinued from 31 December 2005. Norway will assure that CAO tasks which are left open 31 December 2005 are fulfilled.

# Northwest European Loran-C System (NELS)

- NELS operation will continue with no limited level of service until 31 December 2005.
- Information to users will be given 1 year in before the end of the NELS service.
- Information to users will include all available information about future Loran-C operation in Europe.

# Loran-C in Europe beyond 2005

- Ireland
- A principal Agreement between Ireland, the Netherlands and France have been reached, and the Loophead transmitter and the Loophead antenna have been transferred to France and are in French possession.

# Loran-C in Europe beyond 2005

## The Netherlands

- The Dutch involvement in Loran-C beyond 2005 is unclear.

# Loran-C in Europe beyond 2005

## Norway

- The current Norwegian plan is to terminate Loran-C beyond 2005. There are no concrete plans for the Loran-C infrastructure beyond 2005 and no alternative use of the infrastructure have been evaluated. Norway will monitor the development of the European Radio Navigation Plan and a clear and positive European Loran-C policy may lead to continued operation of the norwegian Loran-C stations.

# Loran-C in Europe beyond 2005

## Denmark

- Denmark has plans for alternative use of Loran-C station Ejde. Denmark has received and accepted an invitation from France to negotiate future French operation of Ejde. The actual negotiations have not yet started.

# Loran-C beyond 2005 in Europe

## Germany

- Germany has withdrawn the plans for alternative use of the Sylt station as an AIS site. Germany would prefer to have Loran-C transmissions from Sylt continued beyond 2005.

France has invited Germany to negotiate on the premises for future operation of the Sylt station, but Germany has not yet accepted.

# Loran-C beyond 2005 in Europe

## France

- France will continue to operate Loran-C until at least 2015.
- France is willing to fund continued operation of Loran-C stations Ejde and Sylt in order to guarantee a certain Loran-C coverage in Europe. France does also plan to invest in new Loran-C stations and to restore the northernmost Italian station
- Technical investigations on how Loran-C in Europe can be continued on a limited basis have been carried out.

# Loran-C beyond 2005 in Europe

## France cont.

- France has agreed with UK that they can have the "Loophead" transmitter on loan until November 2005. The terms and conditions for the loan are currently in the final stage.

# Loran-C beyond 2005 in Europe

## UK

- UK will start Loran-C transmission from Rugby February 2004.
- Loran-C will be run for as well timing- as navigation purpose and will be a NELS "Loophead substitute"

# Loran-C beyond 2005 in Europe

## UK cont.

- "Rugby" will use the Loophead ED, ECD, GRI etc.
- The site will be controlled from CCB and will strengthen time transfer in NELLS.
- The site will be operated by a private UK company.

# Summary

- NELS will be denounced from 31 December 2005.
- Information to users will be given 1 year before the end of the NELS service
- Loran-C in Europe will be operated until (at least) 2015.
- Coverage in south will be improved. New station in Sellia Marina (Italy) and/or south of France investigated.
- UK will start Loran-C transmissions late autumn 2004. The transmissions are part of a three year trial.
- The Norwegian stations will be closed down, but the decision can be changed if there is a clear and positive EC Loran-C policy within June 2005.
- France is willing to fund future operation of Ejde and Sylt.