

# Seabed Hazard Avoidance Charts

Worldwide there is increasing demand for precious seabed resources, escalating the risk of accidental damage to man-made sub-sea structures from activities such as anchoring, fishing, dredging and mineral extraction.

Providing accurate and up-to-date geo-spatial information to other seabed users is the key to hazard avoidance - reducing the risk of damage to equipment and loss of life, and minimising the likelihood of environmental pollution. Electronic charts have the potential to fulfil this role - as they are inexpensive to distribute and convenient to use. Unfortunately however, conventional electronic charts suffer from equipment incompatibility problems preventing their use as a widespread means of information dissemination.

Geomatix have responded to this need by creating a unique type of electronic chart, which is compatible with many commercially available GPS plotter units, thereby ensuring a high level of take up. With the information in this easily accessible form, responsible seabed users can take the appropriate measures to avoid damaging valuable seabed structures.

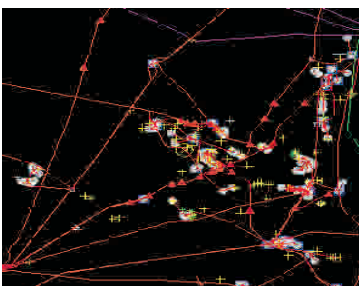
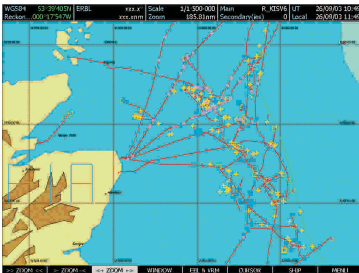
We also offer a web-based map-browser interface for those with internet access, whether on land or at sea. The web access system can also be used by other groups, including licensing agencies, hydrographic offices, coastguard and emergency rescue and coastal zone management groups, thereby offering the potential for additional revenue.

Our services include:-

- Study of local requirements
- Data import from survey records or in-house databases
- Collation of data
- Database Creation
- Establishing on-line Web based map-server
- Automated electronic charts production facility
- Chart distribution by email, web server, disk, cartridge or CD
- A regular chart updating service

We currently provide hazard avoidance charts to the United Kingdom Sea Fish Industry Authority, this on-going initiative being sponsored by the UK Offshore Operators Association and the UK Cable Protection Committee.

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This hazard avoidance service has been operating for over 5 years; targeting the UK fishing industry, with charts being provided free of charge to over 400 fishing vessels, and updated on a six monthly basis. The service has proved invaluable in improving relations between the UK fishing Industry and offshore oil, gas and telecommunication cable operators.

We believe our system has the potential to help in other parts of the world where damage to subsea infrastructure is a major problem. It offers a cost effective solution which helps to prevent accidental damage to seabed infrastructure, protects valuable assets, demonstrates due diligence on the part of the operator, enhances safety at sea and minimises the potential for litigation.

If you are a seabed infrastructure owner-operator who is concerned about damage from other seabed users, please contact us to see how this scheme could help you to minimise accidental damage.

See [www.geomatix.net](http://www.geomatix.net) for more details.

## Specification

### Data Import Formats

- ESRI
- ASCII
- CSV
- XML
- MAPINFO
- EXCEL

### Data Export Formats

- MAPINFO
- Racal Decca Fishmaster
- Sodena
- Quod /TheMap
- Maxsea
- FUGRO FishSAFE
- C-Map
- Cartridge based chart-plotter systems

### Data Processing

- Co-linear Points Removal. Thinning / Generalisation
- Datum Conversion
- Accuracy 5 meters

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