

CHARTS FOR SMALL CRAFT PUBLISHED BY PSA

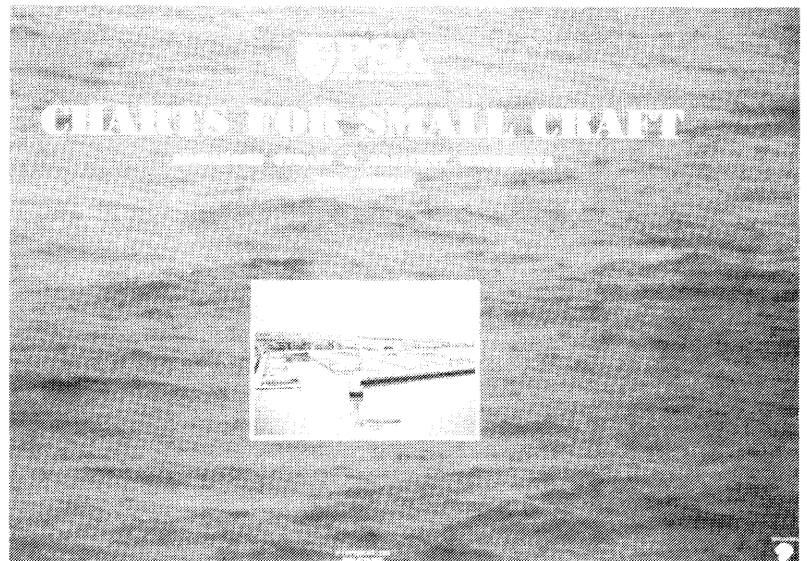
On 19 January 1994 the Hydrographic Department of the Port of Singapore Authority (PSA) launched its first series of user-friendly navigational charts entitled "Charts for Small Craft – Singapore Strait and Its Adjacent Waterways" for boaters.

The huge increase in the number of pleasure and harbour craft in Singapore waters has prompted the Hydrographic Department to compile small craft charts for use by these craft in the interest of safe navigation.

The compilation of the 22 charts with related nautical information was a year's effort involving PSA's Hydrographic Department and 12 representatives from the private sector representing the harbour/pleasure craft and sea sports communities. Boaters consider the standard navigational charts carried on board naval and commercial vessels too unwieldy and cumbersome to use on board the small craft. To overcome space constraint and to facilitate easy storage and retrieval of information the charts and its related nautical information were bound into an atlas measuring 60 cm x 40 cm. Three thousand copies of the water-resistant atlases were printed.

The charts cover Singapore waters in detail. It also incorporate neighbouring recreational ground that Singaporeans are known to frequent, such as the islands of Batam and Bintan to the south and Pulau Tioman to the north.

Compilation of charts — Except for the chart covering Pulau Tioman, the basic chart details depicted in the charts for small craft were adopted from our standard nautical chart da-



tabase stored in the Hydrographic Department's Computer Integrated Hydrographic Operation System.

The extracted basic chart details compiled in accordance with IHO symbols, abbreviations and terms were then processed with the digital data of locations for pleasure craft facilities and areas for sea sport activities such as board sailing, dinghy sailing, keelboat sailing, powerboating, scuba diving, water-skiing and windsurfing. The pleasure craft facilities and areas for sea sports activities relevant to boaters were highlighted in easily identifiable symbols.

The intertidal areas and shallow waters up to 5 metres crucial to the safety of small craft were depicted in green and blue respectively. Coloured lights at beacons and buoys are reflected in their actual colour to aid identification. General information on the sea, climate, tidal characteristics, emergencies and distress communication procedures are also included.

Availability of charts — Boaters can purchase the atlases (@Singapore \$ 84.00 per copy) from our chart distributor Motion Smith or from the private organizations which contributed to the compilation of the charts.

(HD/PSA)

