

Australian Hydrographic Office
Media Release

MEDIA RELEASE

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NAVY LAUNCHES SYSTEM IN WOLLONGONG

A \$30 million dollar computer system which will allow the Royal Australian Navy's Wollongong-based Hydrographic Office to better provide computerised navigation products of Australia's waters will be formally handed over this Friday at 11am.

"For hundreds of years mariners plotted their courses on paper charts. Now they can call up the chart on a screen", The Hydrographer of Australia Captain Bruce Kafer, said.

The system known as the Digital Hydrographic Data Base has been many years in the making, having been first conceived by visionaries in the early 1980's. On 07 May 1999 the Australian Government signed a \$30-million contract with Tenix Defence Ltd. Friday's event (1100-1300) will see the official handover of this system.

Deputy Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Max Handcock, RAN will attend the Wollongong office to witness the ceremony and observe a demonstration of the system.

For further information contact: LCDR John Sperring on 02 – 4221 8670.

Issued under the authority of Australian Hydrographer.