

What is GeoTIFF?

GeoTIFF is a raster image format that is used for charts, aerial photographs & other images that have a location on the Earth's surface. It is an extension of the popular TIFF (Tagged-Image File Format) image standard. GeoTIFF images contain additional information that allows them to be tied to known chart projections. It also allows many Geographical Information System (GIS) packages to automatically register & display the raster images in their correct location on the earth's surface.

What is Seafarer GeoTIFF?

For each GeoTIFF chart requested, you will receive a directory containing:

- GeoTIFF chart images
- A TIFF overview chart image
- A Chart information text document.

In addition, a transmittal header file will be provided for each data set.

Seafarer GeoTIFF images

Seafarer GeoTIFF charts are clipped to remove the chart border & geo-referenced to the chart information boundary. Each plan or inset that occurs on the main chart are 'blacked out' on the main GeoTIFF chart & supplied as separate GeoTIFF images. The blacked out areas can be set to transparent pixels on some GIS packages to facilitate image layering. See *Figure 1*.

Seafarer TIFF images

TIFF images are not clipped & look exactly like the paper chart. TIFF images are provided to enable you to view all information outside the chart information boundary including border information. Please note that TIFF images can not be purchased on their own.

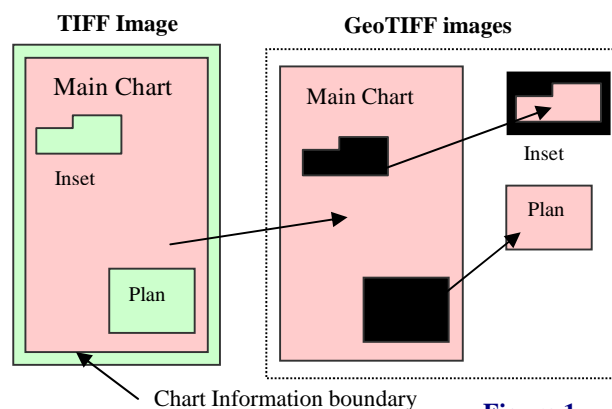


Figure 1.

Chart Information text document

Chart information text files contain the latitude & longitude of image extents, chart projection, horizontal & vertical datum information & the number of colours used for each GeoTIFF image provided.

Transmittal header file

This file contains product information, release information plus an information summary for each image provided. Product information includes an overview of the GeoTIFF format, CD directory structure & an explanation of transparent pixels.

What image resolutions are available?

GeoTIFF images are supplied at 254dpi anti-aliased & TIFF images are supplied at a resolution of 127dpi anti-aliased.

What projection & horizontal datums are the images in?

GeoTIFF images are supplied in the same projection & horizontal datum as the paper chart.

Why are the GeoTIFF images clipped?

The GeoTIFF raster image format only allows one set of geographic information to be stored for each image & does not have the ability to specify an area within an image that the geographic information applies to.

This has implications for charts containing plans & insets since they will be tied to the main chart image instead of their correct location on the earth's surface. In addition, information in a chart's border would also be given false world coordinates. For this reason GeoTIFF images are usually provided with their border information removed.

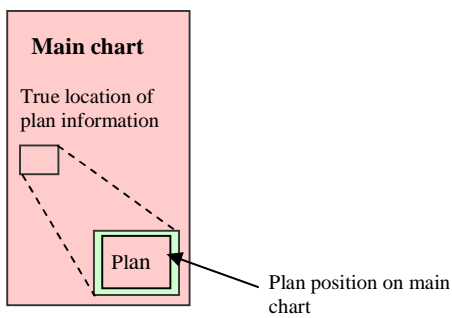


Figure 2.

How do I find out more?

For more information, please see the following *Seafarer GeoTIFF* brochures:

Brochure 1	Product Information
Brochure 2	Application Conditions
Brochure 3	Update Services
Brochure 4	Pricing
Brochure 6	Image Viewing Information

Contact Details

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