

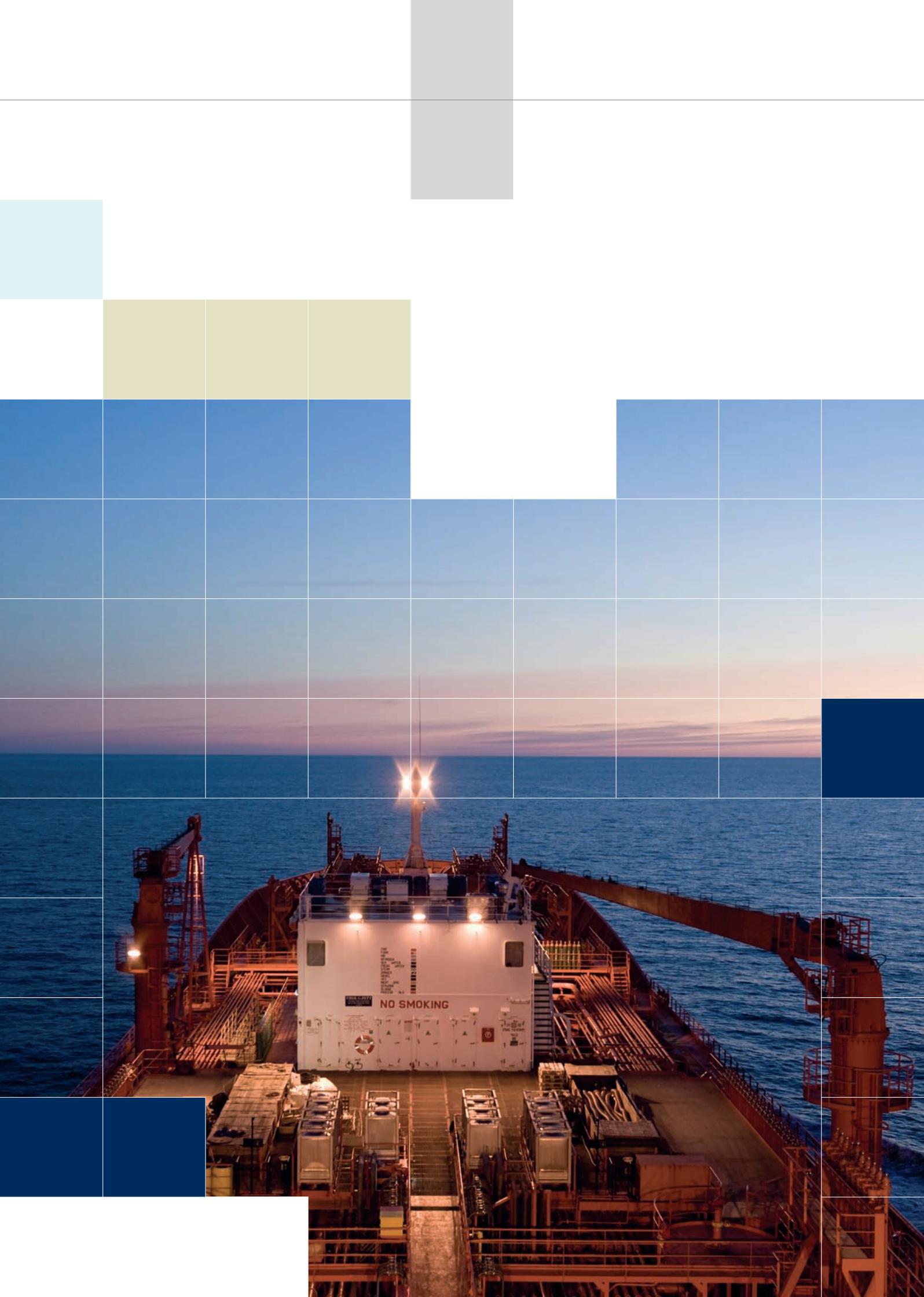


United Kingdom  
Hydrographic Office

# Informed maritime decisions



**ADMIRALTY**  
Maritime Products & Services

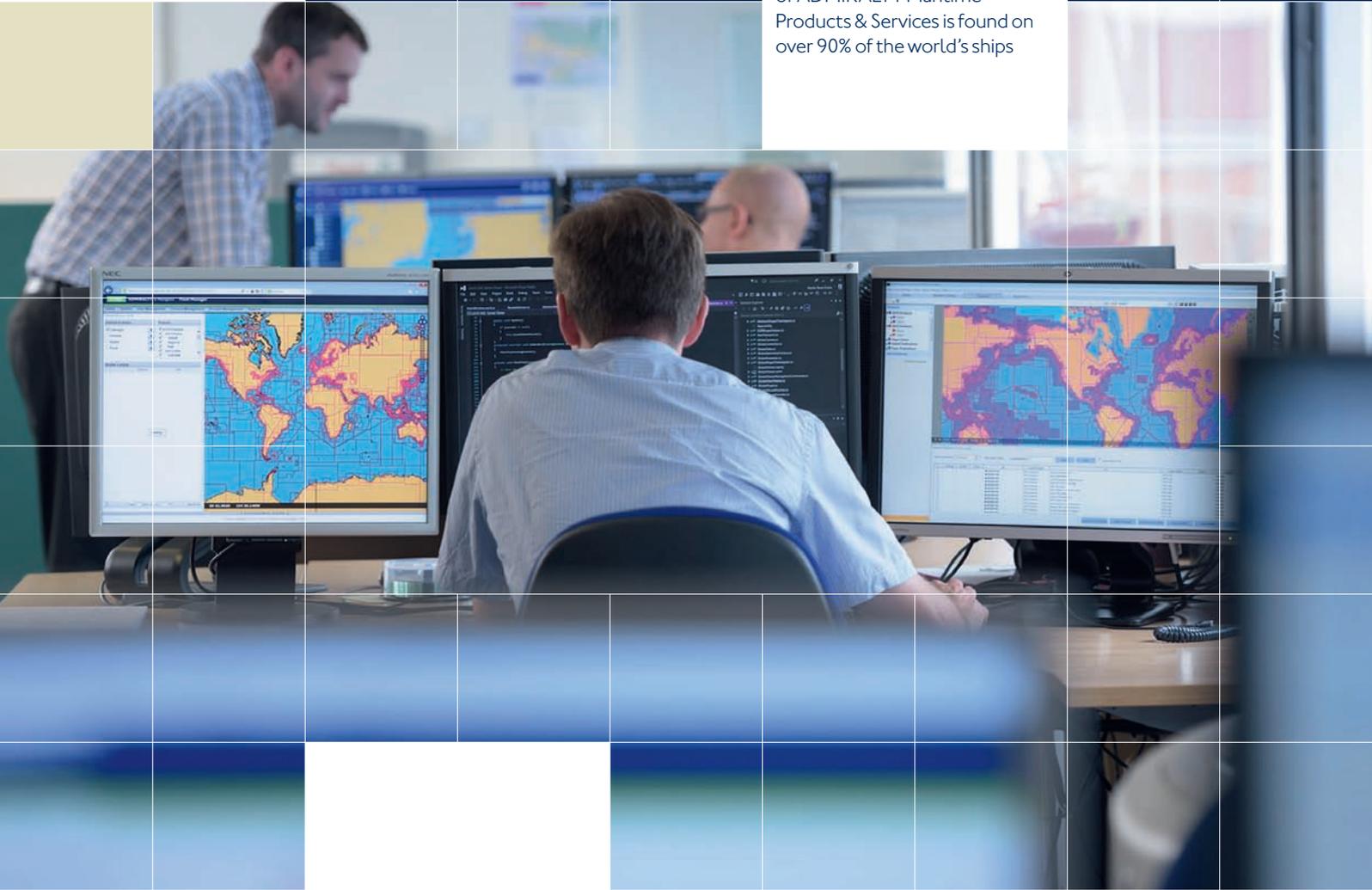


Providing the most comprehensive global hydrographic and geospatial information available to help make informed maritime decisions.



90%

Our market-leading portfolio of ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services is found on over 90% of the world's ships



**The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) is the UK's agency providing hydrographic and geospatial data to mariners and maritime organisations across the world.**

Supplying defence and the commercial shipping industry, we help ensure Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), protect the marine environment and support the efficiency of global trade.

Together with other national hydrographic offices and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), we work to set and raise global standards of hydrography, cartography and navigation.

Our market-leading portfolio of ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services is found on over 90% of the world's ships trading internationally. Relied upon by mariners for over 200 years, our portfolio provides the most comprehensive range of SOLAS-compliant charts, publications and digital services to keep crews, cargo and ships safe.

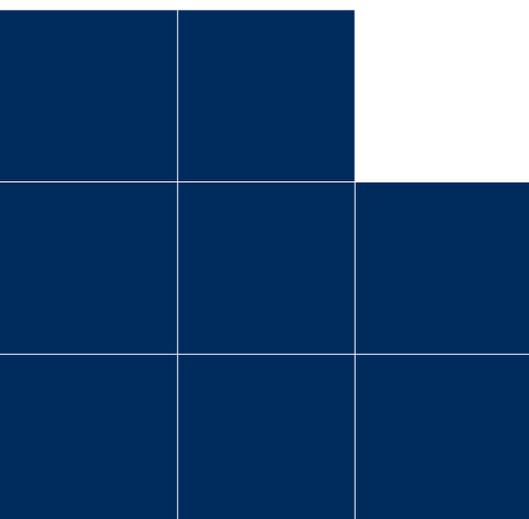
As leaders in our field, our global reputation is based on the reliability of hydrographic and geospatial information, sourced and compiled by experts.

**Our status**

The UKHO is a trading fund of the Ministry of Defence (MOD). This allows us to operate as a self-funding organisation in the digital era, delivering our public task and sustain our position in the long term.

We are responsible for:

- Operational support to the Royal Navy and other defence customers
- Serving the wider government by supporting the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's (MCA) obligations to the SOLAS treaty by ensuring that marine data relating to the UK coastal waters is accurate and up to date
- Providing expert advice on hydrography to the government, the MCA, and the public, as well as representing the government worldwide
- Providing information that serves small craft and leisure mariners
- Offering a range of specialist consultancy services
- Developing valued business streams through the supply of maritime hydrographic and geospatial products and services



## Our work



# 40,000

Our core market includes over 40,000 defence and merchant ships globally



Our information assists operational efficiency, helps to ensure Safety of Life at Sea, promotes the protection of the marine environment and enables improved global trade.



# 70,000

Over 70,000 individual light structures worldwide

**We are committed to delivering the most reliable maritime information available to aid more informed decision-making.**

This information supports commercial and defence organisations worldwide. It assists operational efficiency, helps to ensure Safety of Life at Sea, promotes the protection of the marine environment, and enables improved global trade.

Our core market includes over 40,000 defence and merchant ships globally. We also operate in a number of related market sectors including leisure, astronomical applications, hydrographic and cartographic training.

Working closely with other national hydrographic offices and maritime organisations around the world, we work together to set and raise global standards of hydrography, nautical cartography and maritime navigation.

We collect, compile, analyse and supply global maritime data in a wide variety of formats, including millions of items per year under the ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services brand.

While much of our data depicts physical features and objects on the seafloor, the depth and breadth of our global marine geospatial data, gathered over the course of over 200 years of operation, is far more extensive and offers greater scope than navigation alone.

The range of worldwide data includes tidal height and tidal stream data, navigational hazards, over 70,000 individual light structures, port information, climatic conditions, maritime radio communications information and security-related information.

**Maritime safety information**

We continually assess incoming hydrographic data immediately for vital safety information. Urgent updates are issued as navigational warnings or chart-updating Notices to Mariners (NMs). While many warnings are of a temporary nature, others may remain in force for several weeks and may be replaced by NMs.

# Our commercial portfolio

**ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services is the most comprehensive, most widely used maritime navigation portfolio in the world.**

Generations of mariners have relied on ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services to make the right decisions for safe passage, and can be found on over 90% of the world's ships trading internationally.

Our market-leading range of official, SOLAS-compliant charts and publications have been designed to aid voyage planning, navigation and navigational training.

Our portfolio contains the widest official coverage of the world's busiest international shipping routes and ports, and includes over 250 paper and digital publications, 3,500 Standard Nautical Charts (SNCs), and over 14,000 Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs). The range is reviewed frequently to ensure that the latest information is available for safe navigation, to take into account new port developments, changing trade patterns and new routes.

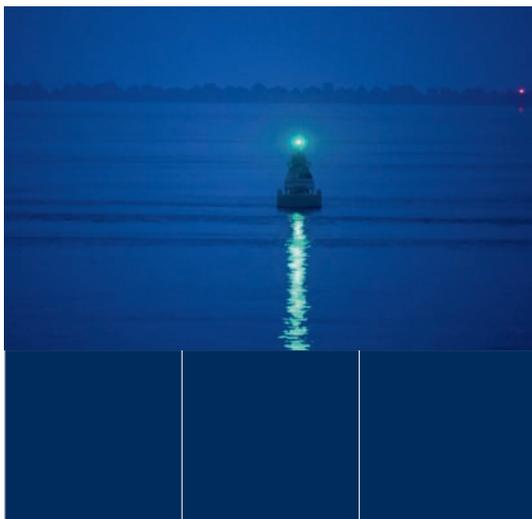
ADMIRALTY Vector Chart Service (AVCS) is the world's leading ENC service offering the most comprehensive, official coverage available and can operate on all makes of Electronic Chart Display & Information Systems (ECDIS).

ADMIRALTY Digital Publications (ADPs) and e-Nautical Publications (e-NPs) save time, are easy to use and are approved by the majority of Flag and Port State Authorities.

Whether in digital or paper format, or whether they are required for planning or navigation purposes, all ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services are quality assured by the UKHO.

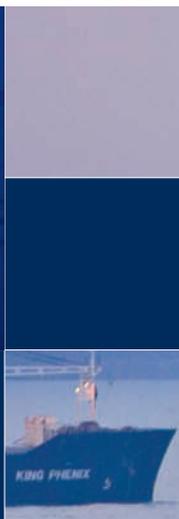
To ensure the ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services portfolio is available globally, we have a worldwide network of ISO9001-accredited chart agents who also provide frontline support.

Alternatively, our dedicated in-house customer service team is available day in, day out – whatever the query and wherever your journey takes you, 24/7, worldwide, 365 days a year. You can find additional guidance and support, such as instructional guides and films, on our website: [www.admiralty.co.uk](http://www.admiralty.co.uk)



**14,000+**

Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs)



**3,500+**

Standard Nautical Charts (SNCs)



# Our ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services can be found on over 90% of the world's ships trading internationally.

## ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services

**AVCS** ADMIRALTY  
Vector Chart Service

**ARCS** ADMIRALTY  
Raster Chart Service

**e-Nav** ADMIRALTY  
e-Navigator

**ADP** ADMIRALTY  
Digital Publications

**ADLL** ADMIRALTY  
Digital List of Lights

**ADRS** ADMIRALTY  
Digital Radio Signals

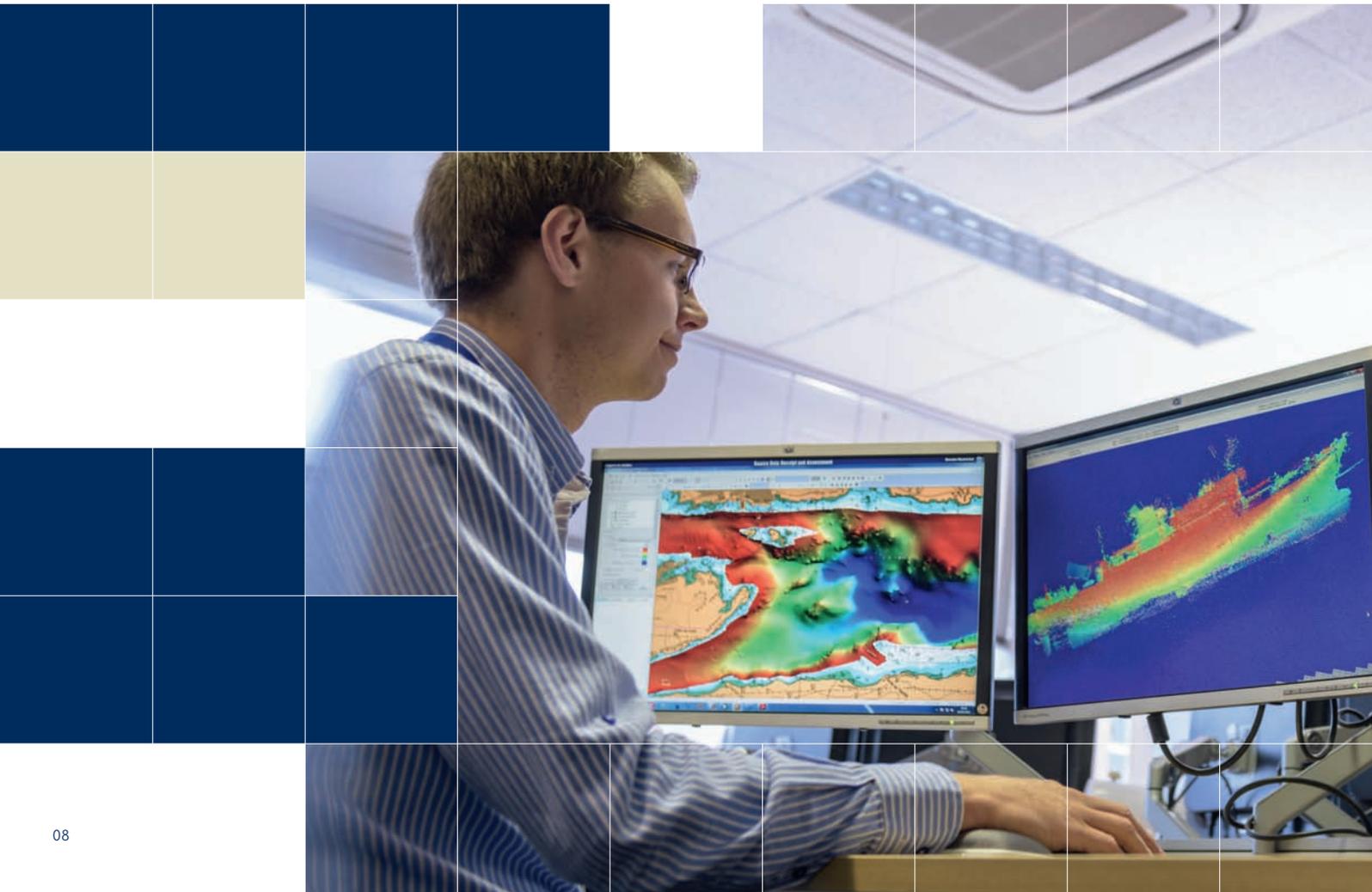
**ATT** ADMIRALTY  
TotalTide

**e-NP** ADMIRALTY  
e-Nautical Publications

**AMDS** ADMIRALTY  
Marine Data Services



Our global reputation is built on the integrity of our information, and we employ many global experts to ensure this information is consistent and up to date.



### Source Data Receipt (SDR)

The SDR team digitally catalogues and routes incoming hydrographic data to relevant departments, to ensure our products are updated with the latest information available.

### Compiling teams

Teams of nautical cartographers and other experts assess information that is relevant to the region they are grouped in, update products via NMs, and compile new editions or new charts/ENCs.

### Bathymetry

Bathymetry is the science of the measurement of marine depths to determine the topography of the seabed. Digital survey data is received from a wide range of sources, including port authorities. Data ranges from sparse singlebeam surveys to full density multibeam surveys in a variety of formats. A wrecks database is also maintained and updated for new information.

### Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team

Our geospatial experts capture, store, analyse and present geographically referenced data. This work is highly diverse, requiring creative problem-solving and complex data modelling.

### Cartographic training

We deliver an internationally accredited range of training programmes to develop the core skills of nautical cartography. Our trainers also run courses in the offices of foreign government hydrographic organisations.

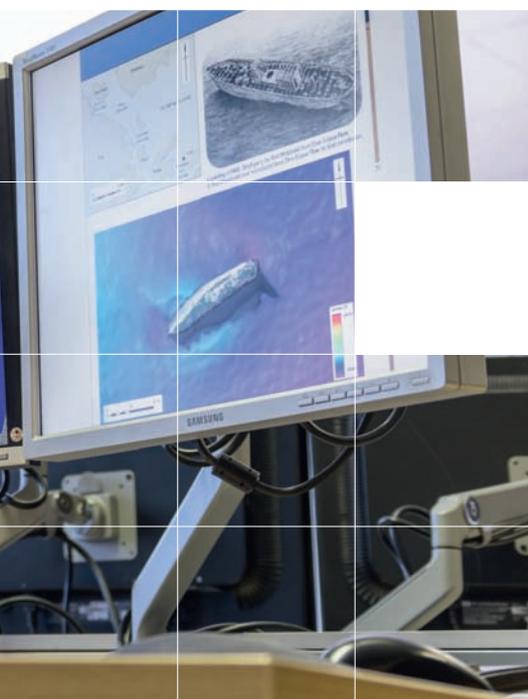
### Working with ECDIS manufacturers (OEMs)

ECDIS is a computer-based navigation information system that complies with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) . We work closely with manufacturers of ECDIS to ensure optimum display requirements of compliant digital charts and other navigational information.

### International committee memberships

The UKHO actively participates in various technical and consultative International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Working Groups (WG) including the development of hydrographic and charting standards. We are acknowledged as being among the world experts in IHO standards development and are proud of this endorsement of our technical credibility.

This consultative work also highlights our commitment to the international hydrographic community and helps to promote positive working relationships with our international partners.



# Our history

**In 1795, King George III appointed Alexander Dalrymple FRS as the first Hydrographer to the Admiralty Board (the organisation, until 1964, responsible for the command of the Royal Navy) to review the 'difficulties and dangers to His Majesty's fleet in the navigation of ships'.**

The first 'Admiralty' chart was produced in 1800, and covered Quiberon Bay in Brittany.

Captain Thomas Hurd, RN, served as Hydrographer from 1808 and started selling charts to the public in 1821. He also oversaw the production of sailing directions and the first chart catalogue and organised the first bilateral arrangement.

Other early National Hydrographers included Rear Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, (KCB, FRS, FRGS, MRIA). Appointed in 1829 he worked until 1855, organising surveys worldwide to expand and improve chart coverage and encouraging international cooperation.

Among his many accomplishments was the Beaufort Scale of wind strength and the introduction of official tide tables in 1833. By 1855, the chart catalogue listed 1,981 charts, with 64,000 copies issued to the Royal Navy. The UKHO now led the world in the techniques of hydrography and cartography, thanks to the efforts and vision of Beaufort and his predecessors.

Developments such as the echo sounder in the 1930s, and sonar in the 1960s, brought huge advances in the charting of the seabed. Recent technology has brought accuracy and data handling abilities that were unimaginable only a few years ago.

## Our archive

Our archive contains hundreds of thousands of hydrographic and navigational records dating from 1755, and represent one of the most complete maritime collections of its type in the world. The archive can be viewed by appointment and holds original manuscripts and early charts by pioneering maritime explorers, including Captain James Cook and Captain William Bligh.

They include hand-drawn surveys, coastal views, books, journals, manuscripts, letters, miscellaneous papers, copper printing plates, printed charts and also the latest digital data gathered from multibeam echo-sounder (MBES) surveys and satellite images.

Approximately 20,000 new items of hydrographic information are added to the archive each year, all of which are catalogued prior to evaluation and storage.

Since 2005, a number of documents that pre-date 1830 have been transferred to The National Archives at Kew in London.



Mariners have  
trusted and relied on  
**ADMIRALTY** charts  
for over 200 years.

1795

In 1795, King George III  
appointed Alexander Dalrymple,  
FRS as the first Hydrographer  
to the Admiralty.



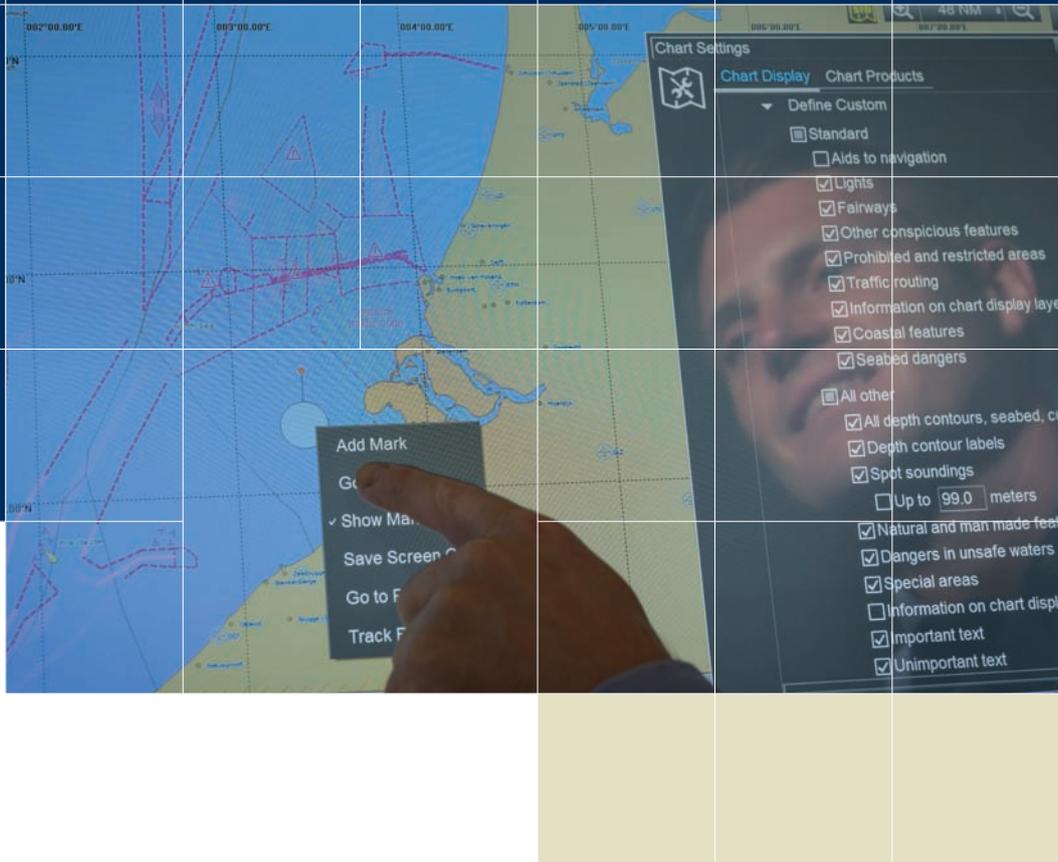
## We undertake a number of highly acclaimed specialist services.

As well as producing our market-leading ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services portfolio, we undertake a number of highly acclaimed specialist services.

### **Defence Maritime Geospatial Intelligence Centre**

This Centre supplies products and services to support the MOD's additional maritime requirements. These include maritime foundation geospatial intelligence to enhance military operations, bespoke operational graphics in digital and analogue formats and short notice production of environmental intelligence.

We also provide support to NATO and other allied defence customers. Much of this support is given in response to requests for data in global emergency situations such as disaster relief and security operations.



### Her Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office (HMNAO)

HMNAO provides astronomical and celestial navigation publications and data suitable for a wide range of users including professional and amateur astronomers, mariners, aviators, surveyors, the police, the legal profession and the general public.

### Law of the Sea

Provides technical advice on the definition and boundaries of maritime space, and the interpretation and implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

### Copyright licensing

We provide licences for non-navigational needs (e.g. maritime images held in our archives) to scientific, academic, technical or consultancy organisations, and navigational products and services for use by professional and recreational users.

### Tidal Prediction Service

Our EasyTide service allows users to acquire tidal information freely for over 7,000 ports worldwide, for the current day and up to six days in advance.

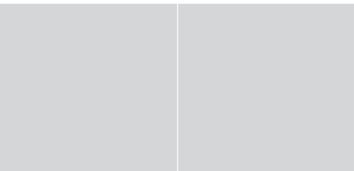
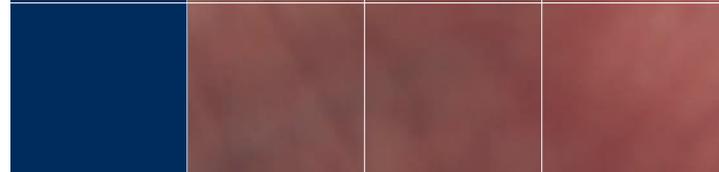
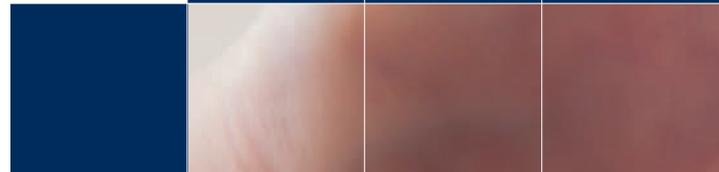
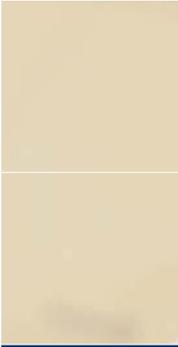
In addition, we offer customised tidal predictions for a range of ports, time periods and data formats worldwide to meet customers' needs.

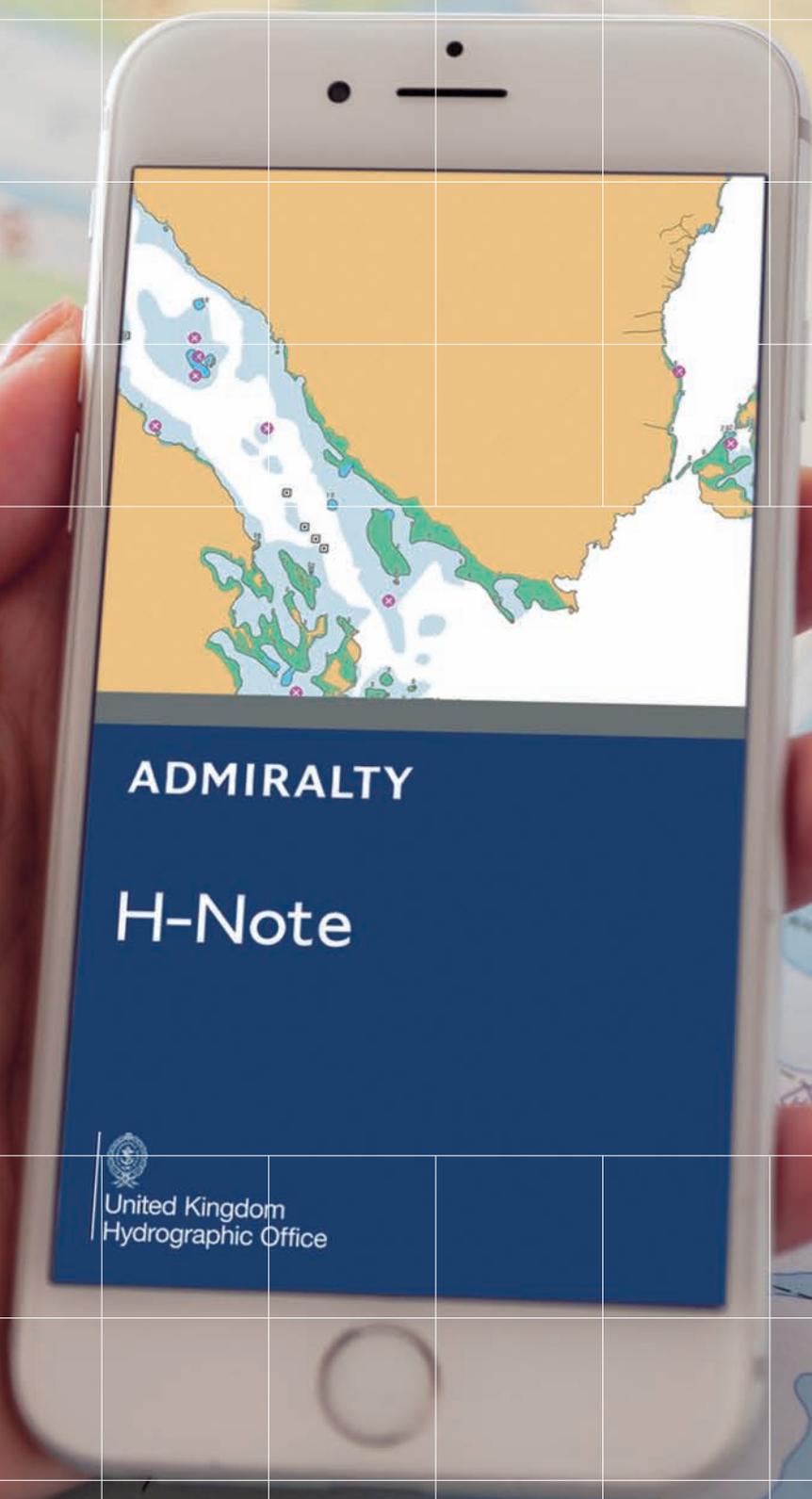
# We will continue to make additional assured sources of maritime geospatial data available to satisfy our customers' growing needs

**To meet the needs of the digital age we will continue to invest and optimise our digital capability, information management, production systems and processes.**

Through closer working relationships with maritime organisations around the world and the greater speed and flexibility from our improved digital capability, we will continue to make additional assured sources of maritime geospatial data available to satisfy our customers' growing needs.

Additional, up-to-date information is collected through various crowd-sourcing initiatives and Hydrographic Notes (H-Note) supplied to us by mariners. We have also launched our new-to-market ADMIRALTY H-Note app for use on tablets and smartphones.





ADMIRALTY

H-Note

  
United Kingdom  
Hydrographic Office

# We are passionate about what we do.

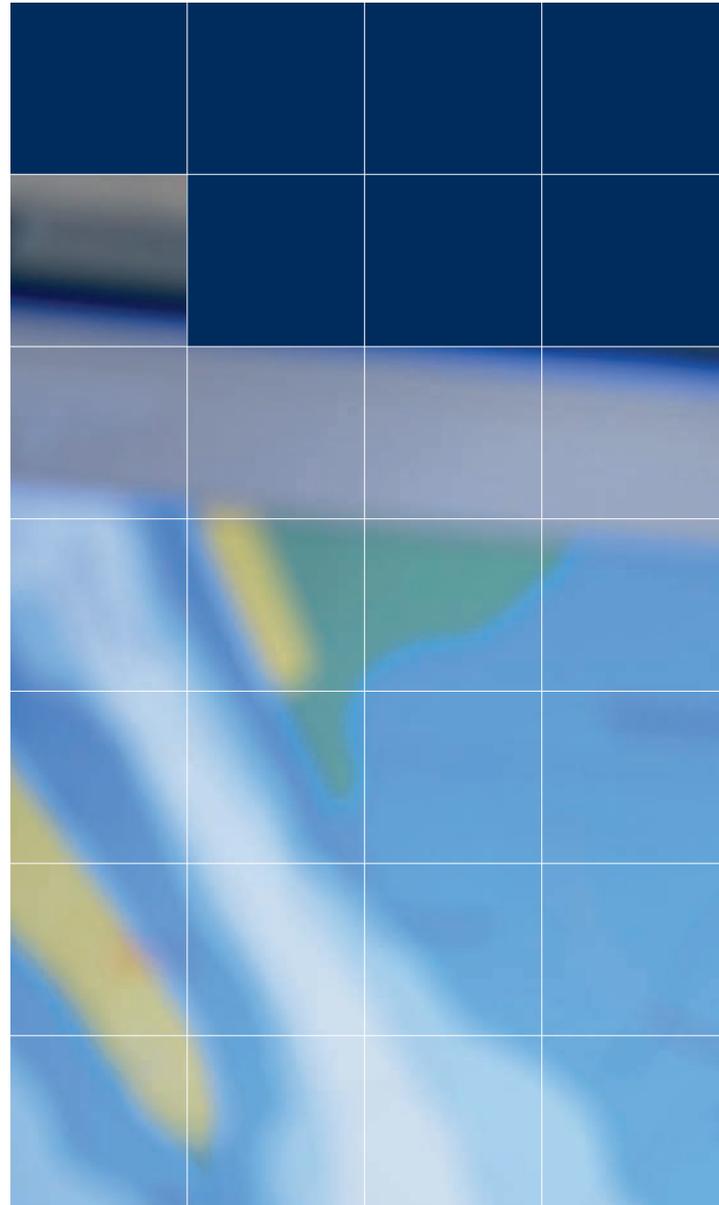
**We offer challenging and interesting work and our staff are empowered to develop their skills and contribute to the organisation's goals.**

We offer all our employees rewarding careers in areas of specialism covering the end-to-end process of survey processing and charting, through to software development, technology infrastructure and commercial activities.

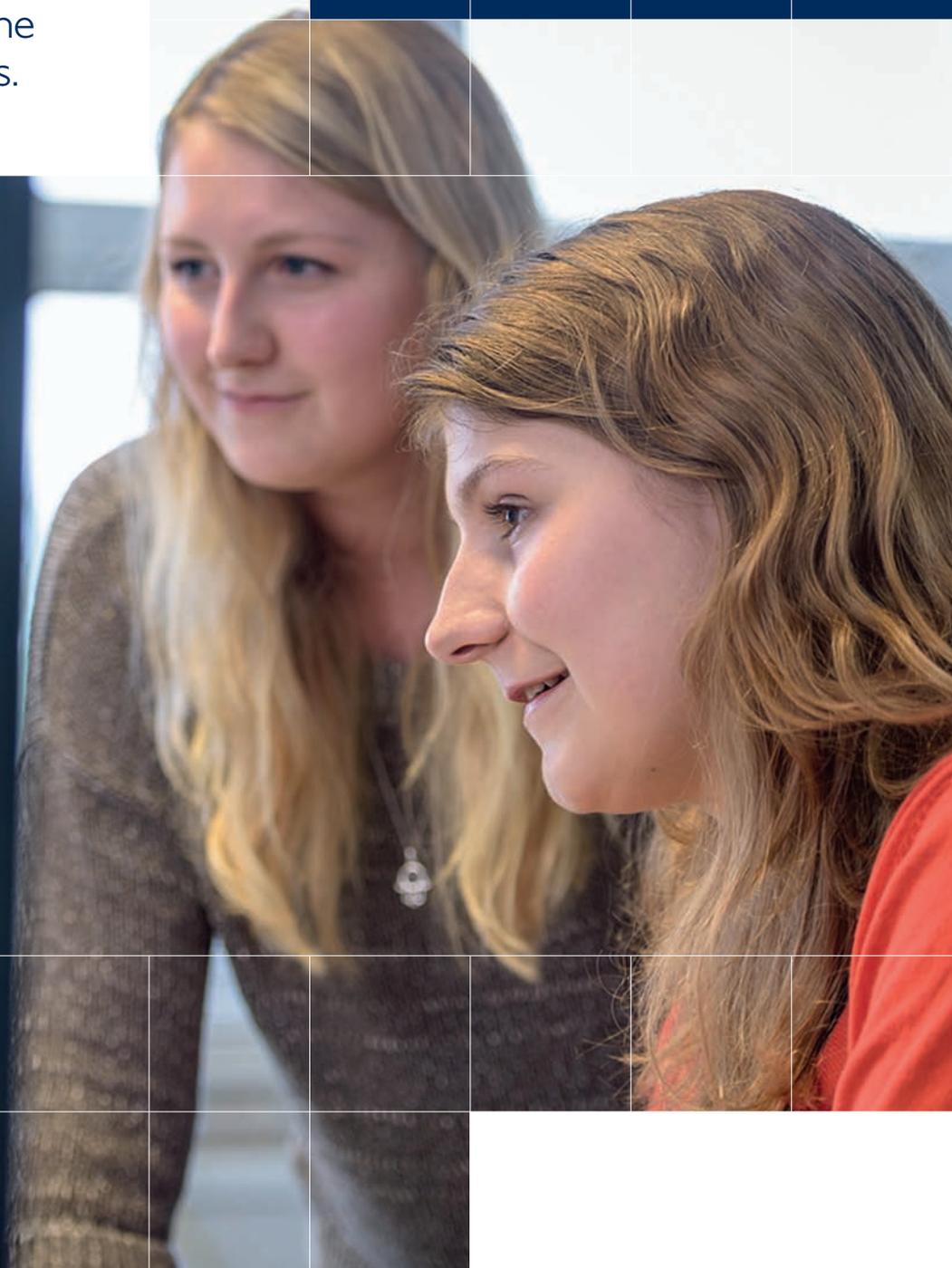
Our employees also benefit from our flexible working scheme, family friendly policies and 26.5 days annual leave on entry.

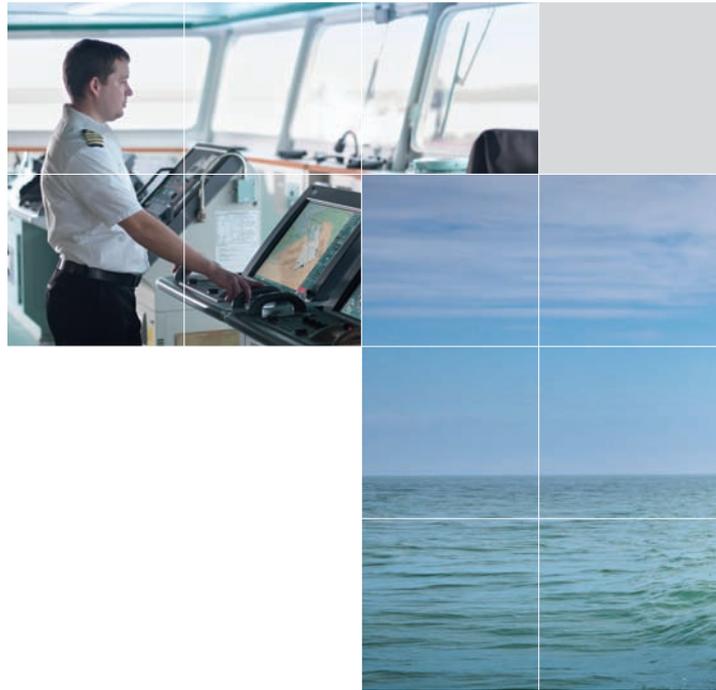
As an Investor in People, we offer training opportunities including professional development and further education.

We are always looking for talented and skilled individuals to join us in our offices in Taunton, Somerset, especially if you have leading-edge digital experience or specialist software development skills to compliment our existing team, as we continue to build our sustainable business for the future.



Our staff are  
empowered to  
develop their skills  
and contribute to the  
organisation's goals.





## United Kingdom Hydrographic Office

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Find out more about our market-leading  
ADMIRALTY Maritime Products & Services:

[admiralty.co.uk](http://admiralty.co.uk)    

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