NAVIGATION - ECDIS

ECDIS, when correctly used and configured, provide navigators with very high-level situational awareness. In our monthly theme we will highlight the key issues, best practices and illustrate the key parameters to be checked and understood.

ANTI-GROUNDING FUNCTIONS:

There are user defined parameters and parameters that are provided by the ENC. Make sure you understand the differences!

USER INPUTS:

- SAFETY CONTOUR = ANTI-GROUNDING ALARM
  A visible boundary between navigable and non-navigable area. A recommended setting: maximum draft + tide + squat + UKC.

- SAFETY DEPTH
  An alarm that indicate sounding or object, which is unsafe to pass over in waters deeper than the set safety contour. A recommended setting: same as safety contour.

- DEEP CONTOUR
  Provide visual indication to navigator that vessel is entering shallow water. A recommended setting: as minimum twice the vessel's maximum draft.

- LOOK-AHEAD RANGE
  The range in distance or time (user specified) ahead of the vessel.

- SAFE CHANNEL WIDTH
  The range in lateral distance from vessel.