

SOB Release Notes

SOB Release 8.32 : "SOB+GRIB" (17th Jan 2008)

This includes all changes, fixes and new features for version 8.
Grey entries are included in PDF User Manual

'About SOB' form

Added more diagnostic info to 'About SOB' text

Added check for chart files in About SOB text when reading license codes from registry - in the list, the :: is replaced with a = if the chart file is also found in either the SOB or CMAP charts folders.

Registration

- Changed Trial Time : Unregistered trial now 1 month, registered trial is 3 months
 - Nag-screen when Trial Time expired, SOB will enable LITE version if not Licensed
 - Added countdown timer to start-up Warning&Disclaimer form for LITE version
 - WAN feature ENABLED during trial period
 - GRIB File form wont open unless trial or paid user
 - Dampen & Calibrate form ENABLED for Paid users
- NOTE: All calibrate values on the D&C form are ADDED to received NMEA data,

Tides

- Added Tide Table option (displayed in NotePad)
- Fixed Tide rate
- Added date display to wave graph
- Tide interval changed from 15min to 10min increments
- Added TIDE btn to Find Tool (Binoculars button)
- Corrected Range display error (for some stations) on Tide Graph form

Targets

Supported Target Types

- Added "Class/Type" column to Target list
 - A or B for Class A & B vessels
 - N for Navaid
 - P for Base Stations
 - S for SAR craft (Search & Rescue – SAR planes may be transponding marine-band AIS inf)
 - G for GpsGate Buddy
 - D for DSC target

Support for GpsGate Online

- URL/IP Address: online.gpsgate.com, port 30175
- Supports Ownship Position uploading and buddies positions downloading
- WAN URL = "online.gpsgate.com", then the GpsGate username/pwd fields become visible
- Will upload ownship position only if valid GPS is received in SOB

Tracking with DSC

- Added DSC Position Polling reports from VHF radios as targets
The DSC equipped VHF radio must a GPS connected and your MMSI number programmed in, and must output the DSC/DSE NMEA sentences. Some radios must be manually enabled to send position reports.
- DSC Distress messages will sound an alarm and details printed to the purple Messages panel

AIS Class B

- Support for new AIS msg 24 (Class B static data)

Improved display

- Targets with no cog/sog/hdg data are drawn as squares
(except Navaids, RADAR which are drawn as circles)

- Added super_size to Targets form
- Added Rng/Brg to targets panel,
Bold and enlarged D&T CPA on VP_AIS for High Collision Threats

Tracked Targets

- Added TTS for AIS Crash targets in Talking Pilot
- Double-click a target in the list to make it the tracked target
- Display panel for Rng, DCPA are highlighted for High Crash Potential targets
- Temporary function for Touch-Screen users:
While in Auto-pan-mode: clicking a target will set this as the tracked target (instead of panning)

Other

- Targets list will be shown with the tracked target pre-selected in the list
- Fixed column sorting on Targets List

WPTS

Quick Wpt at Ship's Position

- Use [Space]+[Space] to drop a wpt at Ship position (pops-up Wpt Form).
ie, hitting space when chart is centred at ship will drop a wpt at ship's position

Support for Raymarine LifeTag (personal MOB device)

- Will be ignored if a MOB is active in SOB
- Must be manually cancelled using SOB MOB toolbar button
- MOB Wpt will not be added if wpt with lat/lng exists in wpt list

Drag & Drop

- Added Drag&Drop support for WPT files
File is not moved to SOB\Waypoints, although wpts will be saved to this folder/file when SOB exits!

Importing

Full support for SHAPE column added when importing a wpt text list.

- The SHAPE must be one of the SOB WPT codes (see User Manual)
- Doesn't matter the order of NOTES & SHAPE, but they must come after NAME, LAT, LNG.
- SHAPE heading can also be SH
- NOTES heading can be NOTE*, DESC*, or COMMENT*

Other

- Changed WPT limit to 5000 (prev 500)

GRIBS

GRIB component is not fully covered in these notes, please refer to the User Manual Chapter:

SOB+GRIB requires an update to the C-Map library DLL (cmWin32.DLL r6.2.2.20). This is installed with SOB+GRIB and is backward compatible with SOBvMAX.

Middle window drag pre-selects GRIB cell area if GRIB is visible, previous grid used is saved between sessions.

GRIB File form wont open unless trial or paid user

Drag and Drop any GRIB file directly to the chart or onto the GRIB Tree. The files can be dragged from a file list or email attachment.

- If dropped on the Tree form then the headers are decoded to the Tree only
- If dropped on the chart then is automatically decoded to tree, loaded into the Viewer which is set to animation mode, and the chart is panned and zoomed to show the grid.

The following GRIB data providers are supported:

1. SailDocs
2. MailASail

3. OCENS/GMN

These are the data types supported:

- | | | |
|-------------|---------|---|
| 1. GTEMP | Msg#011 | Temperature |
| 2. GPRES | Msg#002 | Pressure |
| 3. GWIND | Msg#033 | u-Wind, #034 v-Wind |
| 4. GWAVEH | Msg#100 | Wave Height |
| 5. GWAVED | Msg#101 | Wave Direction |
| 6. GWAVEP | Msg#103 | Wave Period |
| 7. GSEATEMP | Msg#011 | > both return Msg#011 |
| 8. GAIRTEMP | Msg#011 | > both return Msg#011 |
| 9. GGPH500 | Msg#007 | Geopotential Height
...measurement at 500hPa (approx 5600m)
...units are "gpm" = GeoPotential Metre |
| 10. GRAINR | Msg#059 | Precipitation Rate (kg/m ² /s) |
| 11. GRAINT | Msg#061 | Total Precipitation (kg/m ²) |

NMEA

Raw Data Form

- Added "disable dbl-click" option to NMEA form
- Fixed times on Synch PC/GPS form

Sentences

- Fixed RMC variation output (it cant be negative)
- BOD output sentence changed to RTM-to-RTM, rather than HERE-2-RTM when using an active route
- Print a WARNING message if DPT depth sentence is missing the transducer offset value
- Added Altitude and Rudder angles Sentences RSA & PGRMZ (Garmin proprietary)
- Added ACK NMEA sentence for acknowledging a received alarm state (ie from the COMAR AIS transponder)
 - The ACK message is sent on the same port as it was received - this can't be changed by user.
- Apparent Wind and Angle sentences ignored if BOTH values are zero (eg, TackTick spits out ZEROS for every second wind sentence)
- Added filter for HDG=0 – so regard 0.00 as invalid data and ignore it (eg, B&G + many others send 0 values if the fluxgate data is not steady enough to send as valid).

COM Ports

- Fixed sleep/wake freezing problem (related to COM ports):
On SUSPEND all COM ports are closed, On WAKE ports are re-opened

Support for 4x COM Ports

This is for advanced users only. There is no user interface supporting the additional two COM ports.

The following registry entries must be manually added to enable the extra ports:

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\SoftwareOnBoard\sob

- COMM Port3 (DWORD)
- COMM Baud3 (DWORD)
- COMM Port4 (DWORD)
- COMM Baud4 (DWORD)

These ports are opened at Startup if the registry entries are found, status is shown on the Purple Messages VP.

Misc & Bug Fixes

Drag & Drop

- GRIB files can be dragged and dropped – either direct to the chart or onto the GRIB Tree.
- Drag & Drop support for RTE files
File is not moved to SOB\Routes, although will be saved to its original folder/file when SOB exits!
- Drag & Drop support for WPT files
File is not moved to SOB\Waypoints, although wpts will be saved back to this folder/file when SOB exits!

PastTracks

- Added filters and progress bar to PastTrack loading,
- Fixed spd/hdg not being logged if one was zero
- Fixed watertemp value wasn't logging
- Added altitude to the log

- Tracks will draw large if they alone are set for large - Ship Size is no longer related

- Changed track interval from 6 to 5s – the same timer used for arrival alarms (So rtm is 3x this interval). One of the arrival warnings will be skipped if arr circle is less than 10m

NightMode

- Added nightmode colouring for the red N2D panel, and the pale blue NAV panel

Talking Pilot

- Added TTS for N2D: will provide customisable info on approaching the next mark from a range of 1 nm
- Added TTS for AIS Crash targets

Cursor

- Added relative bearing to Status Line, Cursor box and RBLs for the cursor movement

Wind

- If only the wind is selected for viewing on the Navigation panel, then the display's text size will be greatly enlarged – ie, suitable for cockpit viewing. The box will have to be resized (by dragging the edges) to a suitable shape.
- Wind vectors will not be drawn if the wind speed is under 1kn

Tools Drawn

- North-Pointer drawn in top-right of chart if the display is not Nth-Up and also when in perspective view
- Can draw a generic ship-shape symbol for ownship. At very large scales your ship can be set to draw true-to-scale. At other zooms, the circle can be replaced with a standard ship-shape.
- Zoom out to world view and overlay an ISOMAGNETIC Chart - press Ctrl-Shift-Y
QuickInfo will include MagVar when Isomag is ON.
Preset to 3 deg resolution and current year [J] & [K] will step through years

Keyboard shortcuts added

- Ctrl-M for MOB
- Ctrl-A
- Ctrl-T
- [J] & [K] will step fwd/back through ISOMAG years for graph
- If GRIBs are visible:
 - [+ / -] keys will step through f'casts
 - [B] will toggle Wind arrow size
- If GRIB & DR not active,
 - [+ / -] keys will zoom in/out
- etc etc (refer to User Manual for full list)

Other

- Changed N2D rmg/brg text to Yellow for better contrast against red
- Changed zoom window, doesn't maintain aspect ratio anymore,
: Chart wont refresh while middle-wheel is down.
- Added start-up check for background chart file (WWM..DLL). If this file is not present then NO charts are displayed in SOB
- Added C-Map fix for negative soundings underwater rocks not showing

- Changed F3 toolbar back to raised buttons
- Default Spot Soundings = ON (quickly shows new chart owners that detail is present)
- Fixed link to QuickStart Card on F1 form
- Stopped the auto disable of AllowOverZoom when MixLevels ON
- Fixed a XTE quirk with Active Route when approaching rtm
- improved Message window display with N2D wpts and rtes
- Fixed COG/SOG display with Sked Stamp in Message window
- Wont draw shipshape or GRIBS if 3D view
- Rte menu bar positions correctly (onscreen) in multi-monitor setups.
- Previously, the size of the general hit rectangle was a fixed 25 pixel in size, it is now a function of screen size, so for very large screen resolutions the hit size doesn't shrink too small.
The Hit Rectangle is now calculated as 1/41 of the X pixel resolution (so 1024/41 = 25 which was original & default size)
- Changed Copyright to 2008

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English	v8.32
French	TBA
Dutch	v8.30
Italian	TBA
Norwegian	TBA
German	v8.30

Polish, Russian due 2008