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 Title: _____
 Date: _____

PART 996—QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CERTIFICATION REQUIRE- MENTS FOR NOAA HYDRO- GRAPHIC PRODUCTS AND SERV- ICES

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Subpart A—General

§ 996.1 Purpose and scope.

The National Oceanic and Atmos-
pheric Administration (NOAA) was
mandated to develop and implement a
quality assurance program that is
equally available to all applicants,

under which the Administrator may
certify hydrographic products that sat-
isfy standards promulgated by the Ad-
ministrator. “Hydrographic products”
are any publicly or commercially
available products produced by a non-
Federal entity that include or display
hydrographic data. The procedures es-
tablished here by which hydrographic
products are proposed for certification;
by which standards and compliance
tests are developed, adopted, and ap-
plied for those products; and by which
certification may be awarded or denied
are the mandated Quality Assurance
Program. The execution of those proce-
dures for specific hydrographic prod-
ucts is the implementation of the pro-
gram.

§ 996.2 Definitions.

Agency means the National Oceanic
and Atmospheric Administration.

Applicant means a non-Federal entity
that is submitting a hydrographic
product to the Quality Assurance Pro-
gram for certification.

Certification means a determination
made by NOAA that a hydrographic
product submitted by a non-Federal en-
tity has met the requirements estab-
lished by NOAA for a particular hydro-
graphic product or class.

Department means the Department of
Commerce.

Hydrographic data means information
acquired through hydrographic or
bathymetric surveying, photo-
grammetry, geodetic, geospatial, or
geomagnetic measurements, tide and
current observations, or other meth-
ods, that is used in providing hydro-
graphic services.

Hydrographic product means any pub-
licly or commercially available prod-
uct produced by a non-Federal entity
that includes or displays hydrographic
data.

Hydrographic product class means a
group of hydrographic products with
similar traits, attributes, purposes, or
users.

Hydrographic services means

(1) The management, maintenance,
interpretation, certification, and dis-
semination of bathymetric, hydro-
graphic, geodetic, geospatial, geo-
magnetic, and tide and current infor-
mation, including the production of