

Signed: _____
 Title: _____
 Date: _____

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

Subpart A—General

- Sec.
 996.1 Purpose and scope.
 996.2 Definitions.
 996.3 Fees.
 996.4 Liability.

Subpart B—The Quality Assurance Program for Hydrographic Products

- 996.10 Submission and selection of hydrographic products for the development of standards and compliance tests.
 996.11 Development of standards for a hydrographic product or class.
 996.12 Development of standards compliance tests for a hydrographic product or class.
 996.13 Determination of whether to offer certification for a hydrographic product or class.

Subpart C—Certification of a Hydrographic Product and Decertification.

- 996.20 Submission of a hydrographic product for certification.
 996.21 Performance of compliance testing.
 996.22 Certification.
 996.23 Audit and decertification of hydrographic products.

Subpart D—Other Quality Assurance Program Matters

- 996.30 Use of the NOAA emblem.
 996.31 Termination of the Quality Assurance Program.
 996.32 Appeals.
 996.33 Acceptance of program by non-Federal entities.

AUTHORITY: 33 U.S.C. 892b.

SOURCE: 70 FR 698, Jan. 5, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 996.1 Purpose and scope.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric 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 satisfy standards promulgated by the Administrator. “Hydrographic products” are any publicly or commercially available products produced by a non-Federal entity that include or display hydrographic data. The procedures established here by which hydrographic products are proposed for certification; by which standards and compliance tests are developed, adopted, and applied for those products; and by which certification may be awarded or denied are the mandated Quality Assurance Program. The execution of those procedures for specific hydrographic products is the implementation of the program.

§ 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 Program for certification.

Certification means a determination made by NOAA that a hydrographic product submitted by a non-Federal entity has met the requirements established by NOAA for a particular hydrographic product or class.

Department means the Department of Commerce.

Hydrographic data means information acquired through hydrographic or bathymetric surveying, photogrammetry, geodetic, geospatial, or geomagnetic measurements, tide and current observations, or other methods, that is used in providing hydrographic services.

Hydrographic product means any publicly or commercially available product 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 dissemination of bathymetric, hydrographic, geodetic, geospatial, geomagnetic, and tide and current information, including the production of