Template

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TASK NAME: ICE ANALYST/FORECASTER COMPETENCIES

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND ANTICIPATED OPERATIONAL IMPACT

* A set of competencies that would be embraced by all Ice services and promote a standardized approach to Ice forecaster/Ice analyst training internationally.

OUTCOMES (DELIVERABLES)

* Overview plan for ice analyst training to include GIS, analysis basics, WMO regulations, Polar Code, and basic knowledge required for position. Draft for use now and as possible input for future certification through WMO.
* Forecaster competencies will be specific to ice centers and customers, but our goal is to create a baseline.

ACTIVITIES / STATUS

* Third draft of ice forecaster and analyst competencies are now completed and sent to Dr. Vasily Smolyanitsky to bring them into discussion at the 7th meeting of Expert Team on Sea Ice **(ETSI)** In Geneva in May.
* We’ll then seek WMO acceptance. We will target the 2020 Congress for WMO approval

NOTES / REMARKS

* We discussed within our group that **WMO Marine Weather Forecaster Competence Framework** should be revisited and relevant ice competences should be removed from there. I brought it forward and asked John Parker to advise us on this.
* It was agreed upon the fact that there are overlaps with the WMO Marine Weather Forecaster competencies that must be addressed – the two competencies do not have to be mutually exclusive but they must be mutually compatible; this could be an action for **ETSI** to discuss with the Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services **(ETMSS).**
* For the next IICWG in Denmark: I do think that members of other groups can have many good ideas/suggestions for shaping Analyst/Forecaster Competencies and we definitely could benefit from the knowledge of the larger group to help advance this project. Of a high interest, in my opinion, would be a tight collaboration with the Mariner Training Needs group.
* Subjects like:
	+ Enhanced collaboration between ice services and marine training centers.
	+ Standard, similar approaches to the training of ice navigators and ice analysts/forecasters with respect to ice in order to maximize the understanding of the ice products generated by the ice centers.
	+ An international standard for Polar Code ice information products.

 ….would be worth discussing.

* In addition, if the documents were approved at ETSI and eventually at WMO a logical next step would be the creation of a Forecast Training Program (IFTP) and an Ice Analyst Training Program (IATP), mirroring the Basic Instruction Package for Meteorologists (BIP-M) <https://library.wmo.int/pmb_ged/wmo_1083_en.pdf>
* Moreover, our task team tried to find out if international Standard Operating Procedures for Issuing Marine Weather Forecasts and Warnings existed. We could not find any. In Canada, we use the Manual of Standards Operating Procedures for Issuing Marine Weather Forecasts and Warnings **(MARPRO).** It is my belief that the mariners would appreciate standard forecasts and warnings wherever they navigate.