



THE UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE

Press Release

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UKHO Alexander Dalrymple Award presented to Dr Hideo Nishida



**UKHO Chief Executive, Ian Moncrieff CBE with Dr Hideo Nishida
at the award ceremony in London.**

Dr Hideo Nishida, of the Japan Hydrographic Association, has been presented with the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office's (UKHO) Alexander Dalrymple Award at a ceremony in London.

Dr Nishida was honoured for his outstanding contribution to Hydrography over a long and illustrious career with the Japan Coastguard, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Japan Hydrographic & Oceanographic Department (JHOD).

The award also acknowledges the many areas of Dr Nishida's work throughout an illustrious career. These include the actions taken following the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on 11 March 2011. The speedy and professional response of JHOD to this disaster under his leadership was undoubtedly a major contributor to Japan's remarkable recovery from this terrible event. His work clearly demonstrated the indispensable role that hydrographic surveys and charting can play in recovering from natural disasters.

Dr Nishida also conceived the idea of the Japan Capacity Building Project, a phenomenally successful collaboration between the JHOD, the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) and the UKHO, with the generous financial support of the Nippon Foundation. This initiative, to annually train six cartographers to the highest international standard is now in its fourth year and Dr Nishida will be visiting the students at UKHO's offices in Taunton during his visit to the UK.

The award was presented by UKHO Chief Executive, Ian Moncrieff CBE and UK National Hydrographer, Rear Admiral Nick Lambert. Making the award, Ian commented: "Dr Nishida is a modest, selfless and consummately professional hydrographer with a world vision. He holds immense respect amongst the international hydrographic community well beyond his own region in which he is equally a legendary figure. It is for his very significant and long-standing contribution in capacity building and his high-order leadership in response to natural disaster that he is presented with the 2012 Alexander Dalrymple Award."

Dr Nishida, who attended the ceremony with his colleague Chief Hydrographer Dr Shigeru Kato, told the audience that he was honoured to receive the award.

The ceremony took place at the UKHO's celebration of World Hydrography Day at a joint event with The Nautical Institute held at Trinity House. The Nautical Institute's London branch presented a seminar entitled '*Generation Y – professional navigators*' which focussed on the challenge of acquiring and combining traditional and technological skills.

The prestigious award is dedicated to Alexander Dalrymple who formed the Hydrographic Office in 1795 and is a symbol of recognition for outstanding dedication and contribution to world hydrography.

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Notes for Editors

1. Hydrography is the branch of applied sciences which deals with the measurement and description of the physical features of oceans, seas, coastal areas, lakes and rivers, as well as with the prediction of their evolution, for the primary purpose of safety of navigation and all other marine purposes and activities, including economic development, security and defence, scientific research, and environmental protection.
2. The UKHO, which is part of the UK Ministry of Defence, has been charting the world's oceans for more than 200 years with the primary aim of providing navigational services for the Royal Navy and merchant mariners to save and protect lives at sea. In addition it serves small craft and leisure mariners and provides a range of consultancy services.
3. The UKHO is a Trading Fund which means it is a government agency owned by the MoD with the freedom to trade commercially to generate revenue and cover running costs.
4. The UKHO produces a worldwide series of some 3,300 paper nautical charts and 160 publications under the Admiralty brand and has a growing portfolio of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs). These charts are sold globally and used by nearly 70 per cent of international shipping.
5. World Hydrography Day was established in 2006 under a UN Resolution by the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO), with the intent of providing a focal point for publicity of its work and to increase the 'coverage and quality of hydrographic information on a global basis'. The aim is to raise awareness and to encourage states to work with the IHO to promote safe navigation worldwide and to protect environmentally sensitive sea areas.