# EncEditor - Aldebaran Output

By Bill Bergman

We have made changes to the ENC Editor for Barry Vessels of the Louisville Army Corps District. He has developed a work flow to get Corps survey data to the Coast Guard in a format suitable for their Aids to Navigation duties. This data is transmitted in the form of a standard S57 chart with particular Features, Attributes, Attribute Values and Metadata settings. There is currently not an official product specification, rather the content producer (encEdit) and the content consumer (Aldebaran) have the necessary coding built directly into the software.

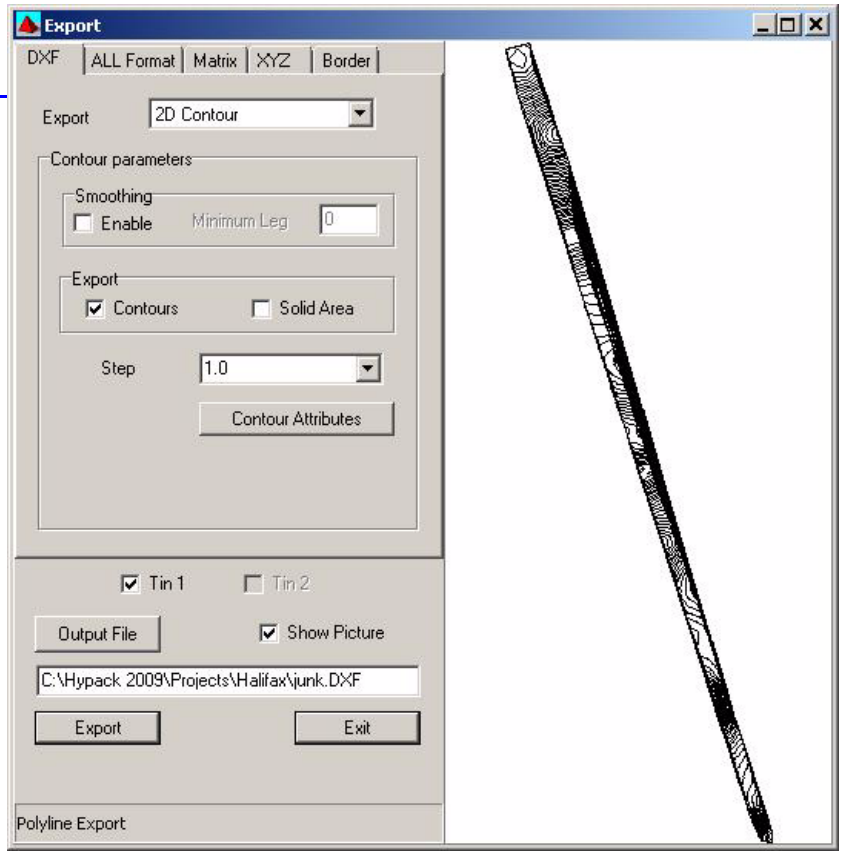



***FIGURE 1.*** *TIN Export - Notice Solid Area is unchecked for Aldeberan*

The first part of the process is to produce input data for the encEditor. Survey Data is processed through the Hypack Tin model. After loading and tinning sounding data, it is exported to DXF format. For our purposes, Contours Only is sufficient, although exporting Filled Areas is not harmful. A second input for the encEditor is a representative set of the xyz data used in contouring. These will show up as soundings in the S57 output. Either the full xyz data set can be used or a representative thinned or gridded set is recommended.

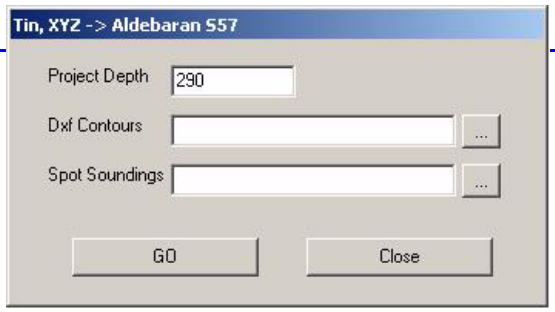
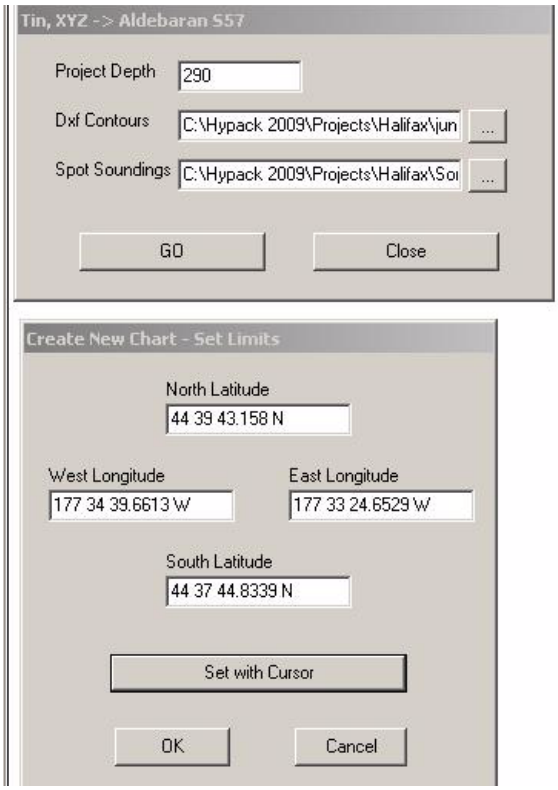


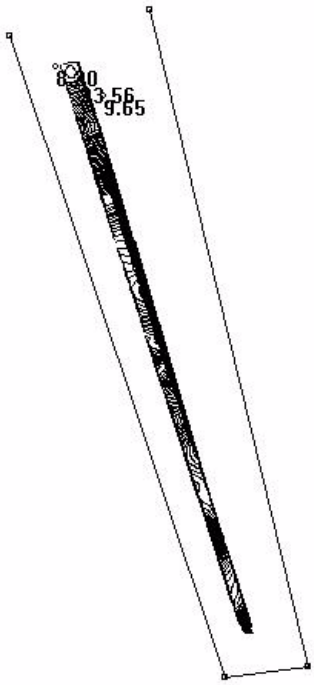

***FIGURE 2.*** *Aldebaran dialog simplifies the process*

In the encEditor a new menu option under processing "Aldebaran Chart...' has been added. Clicking opens the dialog seen above. Load the Dxf Countours and Spot soundings and enter a value for the project Depth. Clicking the GO button will load the files through the S57 Import Utility and zoom the contents in the map display area. This aids in creating the Chart Boundaries if a chart is not already loaded. This is the likely case and if so you will be prompted to create a chart to act as a container for the data.

Creating a chart has been simplified and some buggy behavior removed from the dialog. In the Object Browser select the Charts Tab and click the New Chart Option. This looks like a blank piece of dog eared white paper. The Create New Chart - Set Limits dialog will open. The easiest option is to click the Set with Cursor button, and outline the data with a border. No need to be overly accurate, a simple box bounding all the data is sufficient. See picture below. Click OK and the Create New Chart dialog opens to set the fine details. For example, the Aldebaran output requires the IENC product specification and Overlay intended usage. There are a few more required settings which will be detailed in Barry's document. Another new feature is the Save Defaults button. This means once you get your Chart parameters set and saved, you need not worry about setting them for new charts in the future. They will be populated automatically each time a new chart is created.

***FIGURE 3.*** *Creating a chart container for the Aldebaran Data*



When all the chart parameters are correctly set, click OK and a new S57 Chart surrounding the data is created. Click GO on the Aldebaran dialog again. You are nearly done. Close the dialog. On the charts tab click the Save Icon. Now you are done! With a little practice, the whole process can be completed in under a minute.