

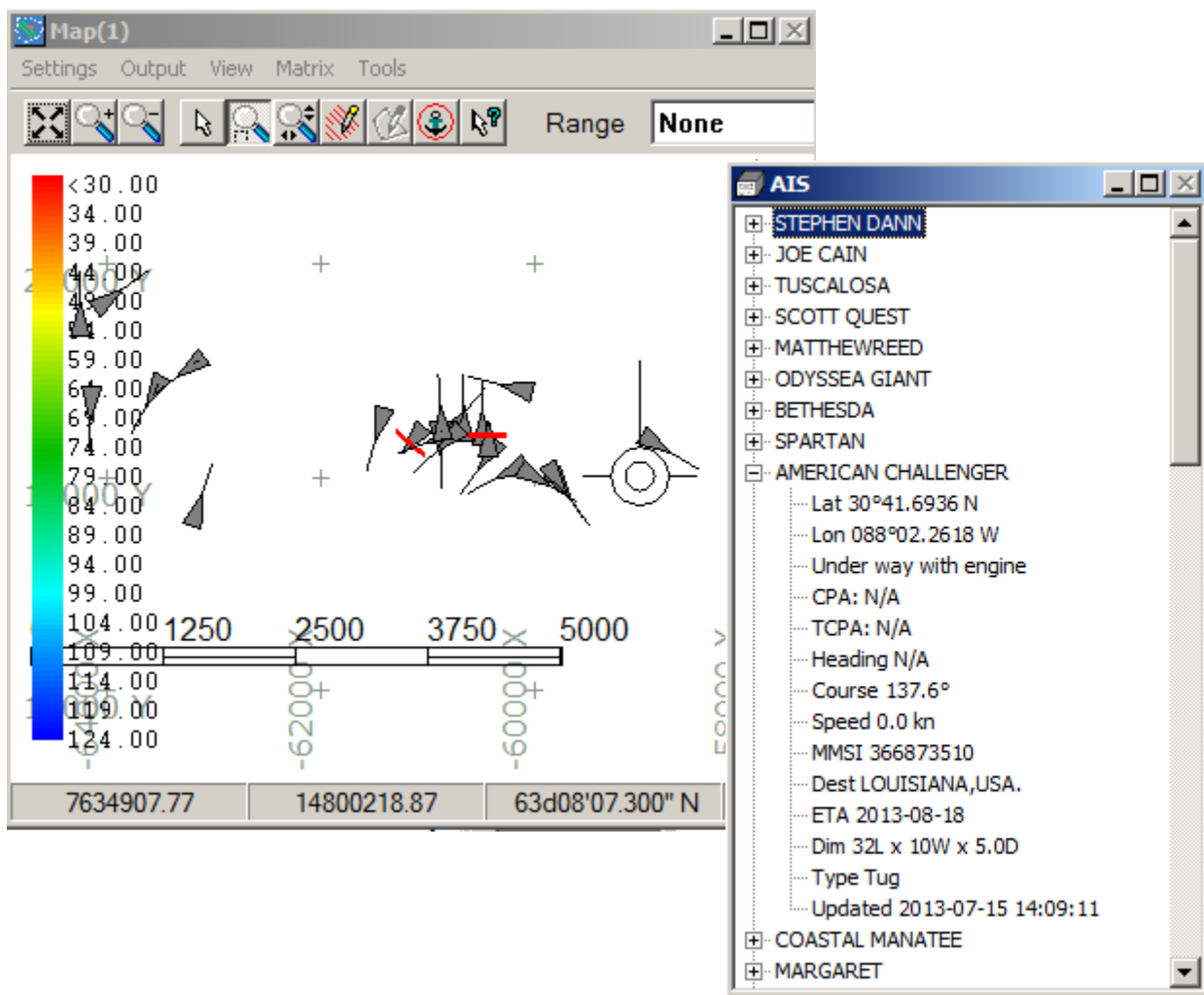


# Updates for the AIS Device Driver

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The AIS driver reads data received from neighboring vessels that broadcast AIS (Automated Identification Systems) information, and displays it in SURVEY or DREDGEPACK®. In the Map window, it displays one symbol per vessel to indicate its position and heading. The AIS Device window provides a listing of all vessels for which it is receiving data, and a summary of the data from each one.

**FIGURE 1.** AIS Displays--Map Window (left), AIS Device Window (right)



**To display data about a specific vessel**, right-click on the vessel in the Map window and choose the Select option. The selected vessel is displayed with a red border and the Device Window updates with its focus on the selected vessel.

Vessels with a red line across the “bow” have not updated their data within an expected time period based on the vessel’s status (at anchor vs under way) and speed.

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You can simplify the display a little by “deactivating” vessels that are unimportant. This removes the color fill, the Course Over Ground Vector and the Rate of Turn indicator from the display. The driver continues to read and update vessel position and heading, even when the mobile is deactivated.

**To activate/deactivate a mobile**, right-click on the symbol in the Area Map and select the Activate option.

HYPACK has recently updated the AIS driver to provide you with improved response time in updating AIS vessel positions and limited user-control over the display.

The AIS vessel broadcasts the vessel name and voyage information in a separate, less frequent (1-5 minutes) message than the position updates. By storing the data in a database structure, the driver can more quickly match each position update with the correct vessel information then update the display.

The user-defined display options are found in the new Driver Setup dialog:

*FIGURE 2. Device Setup Dialog--Default Values*

- **CPA (Closest Point of Approach) distance alarm limit (nm) and Time to CPA alarm limit:** Highlight vessels that could potentially become hazards. If the estimated paths of an AIS mobile and your vessel come closer than the defined limit, the AIS mobile is highlighted in the Area Map window. Estimated paths are constantly recalculated and the alarms are updated accordingly.

- **Hide vessels outside of (nm):** The limit for displayed positions is significant only when you receive AIS updates over the Internet via such services as aishub.net or marinetraffic.com. If you use one of these services, receiving position updates for 10 to 20 thousand ships might overload the computer. In most cases, the default limit (Figure 2) is high enough to cover updates received over the radio.

- **Purge Positions Older Than (days) and Purge Vessels Older Than (days)** control the retention period of the information in the database. The default values (Figure 2) should be adequate in most cases. However the database could also be used to implement some special reporting and, in that case, you might want longer retention periods.

You can download the updated AIS driver (version 13.0.2.3) from the Updates page on the HYPACK web site (<http://www.hypack.com/new/Support/HYPACKProgramUpdates/tabid/152/Default.aspx>).

