Navico has launched its innovative Cartography Toolkit which enables third-party developers to create mapping content for Navico’s renowned range of marine and outdoor navigation products.

The new, easy-to-use software tools and documentation allow experienced GIS engineers to convert content data into a format compatible with Navico's extensive navigation product range including Simrad NSE and NSO and Lowrance HDS, as well as the recently-launched B&G Zeus system.

Offering an open and flexible platform for third-party mapping content providers, the toolkit gives partners the ability to produce and sell Navico-compatible cartography on securely-encrypted SD and MicroSD cards.

Incorporating all the tools required to build maps based on Navico’s Marine and Outdoor Database (NMOD) specifications, both raster and vector maps can be developed using the Cartography Toolkit. The kit consists of three tiers for different development needs. Each tier includes highly-detailed documentation on the steps required to build a mapping solution, as well as sample projects for each type of map that can be created.

Tier 1 provides tools to create inland marine vector maps in Navico’s proprietary AT5 and PSF formats; Tier 2 offers steps to build AT5 vector maps from S-57 formatted ENC data for marine products; and Tier 3 provides tools to create AT5 raster maps. Offering versatile, user-friendly programming, the intelligent kit also provides a simple migration process that allows maps created in one tier to be ported to another tier without recreating data from scratch for each use.
Allowing companies and individuals to build map content that will enhance the overall user experience with Lowrance, Simrad and B&G systems, Navico's Cartography Toolkit is available free to partners who have completed a Toolkit Licensing Agreement.