Raymarine on board new Sea Cleaners boat

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A new vessel, specially designed for the Sea Cleaners Trust to clean up rubbish from Whangarei Harbour, will feature the oldest Raymarine electronics, thanks to new Zealand Raymarine distributor, Lusty and Blundell Ltd.

Those manning the Bobby Stafford-Bush, a new, purpose-built, 6 metre Commando pontoon boat, will always know where they are thanks to their new, state-of-the-art Wi-Fi-enabled Raymarine A67 MFD (multi-function display).

They will also be able to communicate with other vessels and the shore, thanks to their new Raymarine Ray 49E VHF and will carry rescueMe hand-held EPIRBs as an additional safety measure.

Sea Cleaners Trust director Hayden Smith says the Raymarine electronics were chosen for the vessel following a recommendation from highly respected marine electrical professional Warren Tait from EAL Electric, formerly Electrics Afloat Ltd.

“We have installed Raymarine electronics on many of our customers’ boats and they have always been very happy with how they worked and how easy it was to operate them,” he says. “We obviously had no hesitation in recommending them to Sea Cleaners.”

In order to be able to efficiently collect rubbish from the water, the new Sea Cleaners boat has a very low freeboard and virtually no superstructure.

The Bobby Stafford-Bush is the second boat in the Sea Cleaners’ fleet. The first, an 11-metre vessel, has been operating on the Waitemata Harbour for the last 12 years. In that time, it has collected over 3.5 million litres of rubbish, enough to fill 120 shipping containers.