ACR ELECTRONICS ONBOARD AS ELECTRONIC SAFETY GEAR SPONSOR FOR JEANNE SOCRATES’ ATTEMPT TO SAIL SOLO NONSTOP AROUND THE WORLD

LONDON, THE UNITED KINGDOM—Yachtswoman Jeanne Socrates, who will launch her third attempt to become the first woman to sail nonstop solo around the world from North America in a monohull next October, has welcomed aboard ACR Electronics, the world’s leader in safety and survival technologies.

Socrates will be at the International Safety Products (ISP) Booth #B305 at 1 p.m. on January 6th during the Tullett Prebon London Boat Show to pick up safety gear from U.S.-based ACR Electronics, which will include ACR’s new ResQLink™+ Personal Locator Beacon (which is making its European debut at the show) and a RapidDitch Bag.

The waterproof ResQLink™+ broadcasts a unique registered distress signal that not only tells rescuers where the sender is, but who they are. The onboard 66 channel GPS can quickly fix the sender’s position to within 100 meters and then utilizes a powerful 406 MHz signal to relay the distress call to orbiting satellites. As local Search and Rescue is deployed, a separate homing signal and integrated LED strobe light guide rescuers to the sender’s exact position.

A PLB is a satellite-signalling device of last resort, for use when all other means of self-rescue have been exhausted and where the situation is deemed to be grave and imminent, and the loss of life, limb, eyesight or valuable property will occur without assistance. All beacons must be registered. There are no monthly service fees required for 406 MHz beacons.

Following two previous unsuccessful attempts, including a knockdown about 200 miles west of Cape Horn last January, Socrates’ plans for a third around the world attempt will be launched from Victoria, British Columbia in October for a planned seven to eight month journey.

She will again sail solo nonstop aboard her Najad 380, Nereida. If successful, she will be setting a world record as the oldest woman to sail solo nonstop (via Cape
Horn) around the world. Validating her attempt will be the World Speed Sailing Record Council (WSSRC).

For more information on Socrates and her plans, please go to www.svnereida.com.

In 2011, ACR also lent its support and PLB equipment to two RAF polar explorers—RAF Wing Commander Matt Stowers and Squadron Leader Jules Weekes—who led The RAF Northern Exposure Expedition—a 416 nautical mile, unsupported trek across the ice pack to the Geographic North Pole. The aim of the RAF Expedition was to reach the Pole in less than 38 days—the time that Robert E. Peary took, in 1909, to reach the Pole with dogs.

**About Cobham**

Cobham specializes in meeting the insatiable demand for data, connectivity and bandwidth in defence, security and commercial environments. Offering a technically diverse and innovative range of technologies and services, the Group protects the lives and livelihoods, responding to customer needs with agility that differentiates it. The most important thing we build is trust. Employing more than 11,000 people on five continents, the Group has customers and partners in over 100 countries, with annual revenue of £1.9bn/US$3 billion.

**About Cobham Commercial Systems**

Cobham Commercial Systems is a leading provider of integrated avionics systems, emergency locator systems and radar and missile electronics for military and civil customers. Cobham’s avionics systems can be offered individually or integrated to provide an entire cockpit. Its synthetic vision Electronic Flight Instrument System (EFIS) revolutionised safety in low-level flight operations and is now approved on more than 700 aircraft and helicopter models.

Cobham’s new Helicopter Stability Augmentation System (HeliSAS) adds to its extensive range of fixed wing auto-pilot solutions and brings added safety within the reach of a host of operators for whom such systems were previously too expensive and heavy. Cobham Commercial Systems is also an acknowledged expert in Emergency Locator Transmitter and Personal Locator Beacon technologies, from personal units to Original Equipment Manufacturer mounted systems on airliners and helicopters. Its radar and missile RF front end electronics are part of many radars, missiles, and space and commercial radar systems as well as leading edge Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) solutions.

**About ACR Electronics**

ACR designs and manufactures a complete line of safety and survival products including EPIRBs, PLBs, AIS, SART, Strobe Lights, Life Jacket Lights, Search Lights and safety accessories. The quality systems of this facility have been registered by UL to the ISO 9001:2008 Series Standards. Recognized as the world leader in safety and survival technologies, ACR has provided safety equipment to the aviation and marine industries as well as to the military since 1956. The company is headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and employs 147 at its manufacturing facility.