



# National Marine Electronics Association

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For Immediate Release

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## **NMEA Enters Agreement With South Korea's MEIPA**

The National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) and the Marine Electronics Industry Promotion Association (MEIPA) of South Korea have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will insure the adoption of NMEA standards, training and product certification throughout South Korea, the number one shipbuilding nation in the world.

“NMEA’s standards, training and certification have been recognized as world-leading for optimum, reliable networking, installation and service of marine electronics for some time,” said Steve Spitzer, NMEA’s Technical Director. “However, the NMEA – MEIPA agreement signifies that the process of international adoption and implementation is now in full swing. This is a very beneficial agreement for both organizations. We at the NMEA could not be more pleased that we are partnering with the world’s number one shipbuilding nation and one of the up-and-coming builders of recreational boats.”

The MOU sets a framework for NMEA and MEIPA to work together to develop courses and materials for the South Korean market, including a suite of marine electronics installer education qualifications based on the current NMEA Installation Standard. This educational program will upgrade the competency of the installer in South Korea. NMEA has trained more than 1,000 technicians in the U.S. using this system.

The MOU also establishes ground rules for MEIPA to translate NMEA documents into the Korean language and to distribute these documents within South Korea. The MOU covers cooperative areas, such as both organizations participating at each other's conferences. The NMEA retains the intellectual property rights of all NMEA products that will be used and distributed in South Korea.

The agreement covers the following NMEA programs and products:

- Marine Electronics Installer (MEI) course
- Advanced Marine Installer (AMEI) course
- NMEA 2000® Standard Network course
- Certified Marine Electronics Technician (CMET)

In educational programs, the MOU will bring the South Korean and U.S. qualifications together in pursuit of an internationally recognized qualification. The MOU also calls upon the two organizations to work together to ensure the NMEA Installation Standard is well adapted for South Korean maritime interests. MEIPA will implement the NMEA courses and qualifications within South Korea.

For more information, call the Steve Spitzer, NMEA's Technical Director at office at 425-417-8042 or see the NMEA website at [www.NMEA.org](http://www.NMEA.org).

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Founded in 1957, the NMEA has led the way in establishing technical standards for data exchange in marine electronics, with the widely accepted NMEA 0183 data protocol, NMEA 2000® and certification standards for marine electronics technicians. NMEA standards and programs focus on insuring that the boating consumer is provided reliable products and professional service. For more information, visit the NMEA website at [www.NMEA.org](http://www.NMEA.org) or call (410) 975-9425.