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13 March 2012

Cobham Antenna Systems Collaborates with Danish Navy to Solve L Band Radar Interference Issue

CONCORD, California — Cobham Antenna Systems, in collaboration with Seasat of Denmark, have successfully demonstrated its L band interference resistant Sea Tel 9797B and Sea Tel 4009M marine stabilized antenna systems operating in the X band and Ku band radio frequency spectrum, respectively. The antenna systems are purchased by the Danish Defence Acquisition and Logistics Organization (DALO). These systems are designed such that spurious signals are attenuated by a minimum of -60dBc and in this way complying with the applicable NATO Standard.

The L band frequencies have become standard for communication between the indoor equipment and antenna systems on board. Many navies have also installed radars operating in the same frequency range. This creates the potential for significant interference for both navies and commercial ships operating in the arena. The interference can manifest itself as rebroadcast, swamping the satellite and interfering with other users, and as direct interference to the onboard communications system.

Fred Cahill, vice president of Cobham Antenna Systems, said “The Danish Navy has been a loyal end-user of Sea Tel products and are dealing with a unique challenge that they brought to our attention. The distinctive combination of Cobham’s unrivalled expertise in building the most advanced marine stabilized antenna systems together with Seasat’s undoubted leadership in the Danish market, have come together to solve this tricky problem for the Danish Navy. This is an exciting development, in particular because it allows navies around the world to continue the use of their L band radars without the dangers of spurious signals and interference to others.”

Peter Malmberg, M.Sc., of DALO said, “We have a long history of working with Sea Tel products and with their local dealer, Seasat. We are very happy with the performance of
the 2.4m and 1m systems that Sea Tel designed to solve the interference issue. This issue was causing significant problems for us, making simultaneous use of the on-board L band radar and the satellite antennas impossible.”

Sea Tel 9797B and 4009M systems were specifically designed to meet DALO’s requirements of protection against a field strength of 100 V/m to mitigate the possibility of transmitting spurious signals to the satellite. In collaboration with Seasat and DALO, Cobham used Zone Isolation Methodology (ZIM) to eliminate or reduce spurious noise at the point origination, mostly interconnections. The interconnection zones include various electrical and electronic components in the antenna system.

Mr. Malmberg will be presenting his findings at Satellite 2012 in Washington DC on March 15, 2012. The topic of his presentation is: “L Band Interference Into Satellite Earth Stations.”

About Cobham
Cobham specialises 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 lives and livelihoods, responding to customer needs with agility that differentiates it. The most important thing we build is trust. Employing more than 10,000 people on five continents, the Group has customers and partners in over 100 countries.

About Cobham Antenna Systems
For more than 60 years, Cobham Antenna Systems has been a world leader in the design and manufacture of communication systems and antennas. Cobham’s innovative communication, navigation, jamming, electronic warfare, telemetry and radar antennas serve all major commercial aviation manufacturers and operators, major defence contractors, emergency response organisations and law enforcement agencies. Cobham’s advanced antenna technology for satellite communications, avionics, radar and surveillance applications connect military and commercial aircraft, naval vessels, vehicles
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and mobile teams with the world, through high-speed data, voice and video, including a range of products to satisfy every Inmarsat Aeronautical and Marine SATCOM application.

Cobham Antenna Systems also has the industry’s widest range of standard, commercial off the shelf (COTS) composite masts, antenna pointing devices, and vehicle mounting systems. Cobham produces high performance composite structures and products for the aerospace industry, including radomes and aircraft components, high temperature aircraft engine products, rotorcraft blade components and unmanned aerial vehicle airframes and sub-components.

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