Vesper Marine receives FCC approval on innovative class B AIS transponder

DECEMBER 21, 2010

Auckland, New Zealand – Vesper Marine, a leading manufacturer of innovative marine safety products, announced today that it has received FCC Approval for its next-generation, all-in-one, dedicated, collision avoidance display, the AISWatchMate® 850 Class B Transponder.

“We are delighted to achieve this very important milestone for the global launch of the WatchMate 850,” said Jeff Robbins, co-founder, Vesper Marine. “Demand has been building in North America since we announced the product in September and with this FCC approval we can now begin filling orders for our US customers.”

A compact and self-contained device, the WatchMate 850 offers an easy-to-read display, simple to use button-driven menus, built-in GPS antenna, and powerful Class B AIS transponder. The system transmits a boat’s name, size, position, speed and course over AIS channels while simultaneously displaying the timely and easy-to-process information boaters need to interpret potential hazards and react accordingly. Designed to give boaters the ultimate peace of mind, the WatchMate 850 provides unparalleled collision avoidance features for a more worry-free, on-the-water experience.

“To date, we have seen a very positive response to the 850, reinforcing our belief that customers see the value of a dedicated AIS display,” said Mike Ogle, general manager of sales and marketing, Vesper Marine. “The days of compromising on safety by allowing vital AIS information to be lost in the clutter of soundings, overlays, routes and waypoints are over.”
The WatchMate 850 has been selling in Europe and Asia Pacific since the beginning of November through Vesper Marine’s dealer network across 16 countries worldwide. A full list of North American Vesper Marine dealers can be found at www.vespermarine.com/where-to-buy.

For more information contact:
Mike Ogle +64 9 950 48 48 mike.ogle@vespermarine.com