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# CONNECT *Fest*

A NMEA 2000® LIVE DEMO

Aug. 20, 2008,  
<http://www.connectfest.org>

## **ConnectFest Demonstration Scheduled for IBEX and METS**

The NMEA 2000 Network, the international networking marine electronics standard for communication on vessels, will be demonstrated at a special event called ConnectFest, scheduled to be held at the IBEX trade show in Miami Beach this October and the METS trade fair in Amsterdam in November.

The ConnectFest Demonstrations are organized and presented by the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA). You may register for ConnectFest through the website at <http://www.connectfest.org>. The exact time and room number will also be posted at <http://www.connectfest.org>.

The NMEA 2000 Network provides benefits to boat builders and the trade including increased profitability and flexibility of installations as well as offers their customers a broad selection of marine electronics products.

The NMEA 2000 Network was developed by the National Marine Electronics Association, by a number of companies inside and outside the boating industry, and with the aid of the U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center,

For the boating consumer, the NMEA 2000 opens up a new world of marine electronics with a system that offers the possibility of “plug and play” when their on board product requirements change and high reliability as well as certified products from a growing list of manufacturers.

**The NMEA 2000 Network was developed and is still maintained by a diverse group of leading marine electronic, engine and electrical manufacturers under the guidance of NMEA.**

At each ConnectFest, people may attend anytime during the demonstration hours. Attendees will see a 15 minute presentation on the background of NMEA 2000 at the beginning of each ConnectFest. A live demonstration of a NMEA 2000 working network with marine electronics, engines and electrical will be ongoing.

Demonstrations will include the sharing of engine data as well as GPS data and other electronic information on multiple displays from different manufacturers simultaneously. “Plug and play” will also be demonstrated when products will be plugged and unplugged live without disruption to the network on any other products on the network. Attendees will have the opportunity to talk with manufacturers of NMEA 2000 certified products and with representatives from the NMEA. Refreshments will be available.

**Some of the benefits of the NMEA 2000 Network for boat builders and the trade include:**

- Profitability: NMEA 2000 lowers the costs of installing and configuring networks
  - Employee productivity: NMEA 2000 is self-configuring; no setup is required.
- There is no master and no controller.

- Simple Installation: One single network cable backbone replaces current systems that require a myriad of cables.
- Eliminates hidden costs: The NMEA 2000 physical layer provides screw-on connectivity that assures correct polarity and great connectivity strength.
- Satisfied customers: For the boating consumer, NMEA 2000 network provides great reliability and the ability to easily install certified products. The customer does not have to be locked into a single vendor for the entire boat. Simple diagnostic tools make it easy for marine electronics dealers and installers to find and fix problems.

”ConnectFest will be bigger than ever this year,” said Steve Spitzer, NMEA’s Technical Director. “We expect a number of new marine electronics manufacturers to participate as well as one or more electrical manufacturers.”

**For further information**, Contact NMEA Technical Director, Steve Spitzer at:

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**To sign up** for either the IBEX ConnectFest or the METS ConnectFest, go to the website, <http://www.connectfest.org> or go to <http://www.NMEA.org> and click on the ConnectFest logo.

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