



National Marine Electronics Association

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For Immediate Release

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2012 NMEA conference & expo set for September 26–29

*Technical tracks will anchor
international event in Orlando*

Marine electronics dealers and technical personnel will be the big winners in the completely redesigned 2012 NMEA International Marine Electronics Conference & Expo, to be held September 26–29, 2012, at the Loews Royal Pacific Resort in Orlando, Florida.

“We’re changing everything about the conference to make certain that dealers and technical personnel find it a rewarding training and educational experience that they must not miss,” said Brad Good, chairman of the conference committee.

The 2012 NMEA International Marine Electronics Conference & Expo is expected to attract more than 600 dealers, technicians, distributors, manufacturers, and others who design, build, install, and service marine electronics for the nation’s fleets of recreational and commercial vessels. It is North America’s largest event for the marine electronics industry.

“For the first time we are providing three educational tracks that will run three consecutive days, and exhibits this year will be open three afternoons and evenings,” Good said. “It is a great combination of training and education for

dealers and techs that they can get nowhere else. And with strong attendance by dealers and techs, the event will be more rewarding for the participating manufacturers.”

The three technical tracks anchoring the event are:

(1) Designer Track – Operational Excellence

Power planning, antenna placement, thermal planning, NMEA 2000® design and documentation, and “as built”

(2) Installing to the Standards – Operational Excellence

Proper tool selection, transducer selection and installation, power terminations, RF terminations, and SHF techniques

(3) Business Training – Business Growth

Effective purchasing and inventory management, standardizing your workflow process, project management costs and benefits, and planning for profit (including reading your balance sheet)

In addition to the technical tracks, the 2012 NMEA International Marine Electronics Conference & Expo will showcase the best in marine electronics in 11,000 square feet of exhibit area and highlight manufacturers’ product introductions for 2013, said Bruce Angus, the NMEA’s interim executive director. For many manufacturers, the 2012 NMEA event will be their first opportunity to unveil the best and brightest products for the upcoming year, Angus said.

For the first time this year, the expo will be open three afternoons, allowing more flexibility for attendees to visit the exhibits between sessions of the educational tracks. Manufacturer training will also continue as an important part of the NMEA conference. The lineup and scheduling of manufacturer seminars will be announced soon, Angus said.

Also new this year, the 2012 NMEA International Marine Electronics Conference & Expo will be held in the same week, and at the same location, as the 2012 RTCM Annual Assembly Meeting and Conference. RTCM (Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services) sets many of the marine electronics standards for communications and navigation equipment. RTCM will hold its conference at the Loews Royal Pacific Resort September 23–28, with the NMEA conference coinciding on September 26–29. Registrations for the events will be separate.

In addition to dealer training and seminars, educational sessions, product introductions, and business opportunities, the 2012 NMEA International Marine Electronics Conference & Expo will offer numerous networking events, including a welcoming booster reception, the annual breakfast meeting, breakfasts, lunches, a fishing tournament, and a golf tournament, as well as the industry-awards dinner, complete with the well-known industry rock band, Syngle Sydeband.

To see complete details and to register, please see NMEA.org. Or for more information, call the NMEA office at 410-975-9425.

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 ensuring that the boating consumer is provided reliable products and professional service. For more information, visit the NMEA website at NMEA.org or call 410-975-9425.