



National Marine Electronics Association

692 Ritchie Highway, Suite 104, Severna Park, MD 21146 • 410-975-9425

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mark Reedenauer
410-975-9425
mreedenaer@nmea.org

February 5, 2020

NMEA ADDS ELECTRONICS THEFT PREVENTION AND SECURITY SYSTEM INSTALLATIONS TO NEXT VERSION OF 0400 INSTALLATION STANDARD

SEVERNA PARK, MD—The National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) is reaching out to dealers, installers, and boat builders to help prevent the theft of marine electronic displays and systems. In a strategic move, NMEA has added educational information about preventing theft and improving vessel security to the next version of the NMEA 0400 Installation Standard, scheduled for release later in 2020.

The Installation Standard additions describe marine electronic display installations using specialty security through-bolts and nuts along with other best practice recommendations that make removal of a display from the vessel more difficult. A second section details the proper installation of vessel security systems, which adds an additional level of protection to the vessel in the event of a vandalism, burglary, or theft attempt. This section details best practice installation of motion sensors, alarm buzzers and tracking antennas. Installation of these items can help deter theft before it even begins, as these alarms can be triggered when someone steps on a vessel.

At the same time, NMEA is encouraging owners and captains to record and register serial numbers of their electronics with the appropriate manufacturer so that the proper authorities can assist with theft recovery, should it occur.

NMEA organized a meeting at last year's Miami International Boat Show that included manufacturer members, marine journalists, a theft activist attorney and others to discuss ways to prevent MFD thefts from the manufacturer, installer and boat owner levels. Since that meeting, one major NMEA manufacturer member has introduced an optional "pin code" for their displays that, if enabled, would render a device useless if stolen.

"Encouraging dealers, installers, and boat builders to take additional steps to prevent electronics thefts through changes in the 0400 Installation Standard is another step to help reduce this crime," said NMEA President & Executive Director Mark Reedenauer. "Also, adding a pin code is a major move for one specific MFD manufacturer, and I anticipate that other manufacturers will hopefully follow."

For more information, contact Mark Reedenauer at (410) 975-9425 or mreedenaer@nmea.org.

About the NMEA

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 with reliable products and professional service. For more information, visit the NMEA website at www.NMEA.org or call (410) 975-9425.