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18 Products earn NMEA 2000® Certification

Designation signals products will interoperate as advertised

SEVERNA PARK, MD—Eighteen marine electronics products from four manufacturers—BEP, Garmin, Humminbird, and Veethree—have received NMEA 2000® Certification in recent weeks. The certification signals to buyers that the designated products will interoperate as advertised on any properly designed and built NMEA 2000® backbone. A total of 52 products have earned certification so far in 2014.

NMEA 2000® is the CAN-based open industry network standard that permits electrical and electronic devices to communicate with each other. While some products on the market are identified as “NMEA 2000 compatible” or “NMEA 2000 compliant,” only those that are labeled “NMEA 2000® Certified” have met testing requirements for certification.

To be certified, a product must have at least one isolated interface that communicates using the hardware and higher-level protocols established in the NMEA 2000® Standard for Serial-Data Networking of Marine Electronic Devices. The product must also pass the hardware and software tests identified in Appendix C of the NMEA 2000® Standard. Manufacturers self-certify the product and send an encrypted file to NMEA for validation.

There are more than 100 tests that target protocol-level requirements. Actual data that a manufacturer transmits or receives are not validated by NMEA. The test results must be submitted to and verified by NMEA, which then issues an
NMEA 2000® Product Certification. For a complete list of certified products, visit www.nmea.org/content/nmea_standards/certified_produ.asp.

Manufacturers whose products received certification recently are:

- BEP (CZone: Motor Output Interface, Switch Interface, Output Interface)
- Garmin (GPSMAP 3310DS)
- Humminbird (ION: 10, 12, 10X, 12X. ONIX 8: CXI COMBO, CXI SI COMBO, CI SI COMBO, CI COMBO, CXI CP. ONIX 10: CXI COMBO, CXI SI COMBO, CI SI COMBO, CI COMBO)
- Veethree (ICON Touch 3.5C)

"Manufacturers and boaters derive several benefits from products’ being certified," says NMEA Technical Director Steve Spitzer. “First, they understand that the certification provides some level of assurance that the products will interoperate. Second, manufacturers have the capability to differentiate their product using the tools within the NMEA 2000® Standard and still be certified. This is a huge benefit for the boater.”

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 insuring 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.