



National Marine Electronics Association

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For Immediate Release

December 10, 2014

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NMEA 2000 goes 'live' at Toronto Boat Show

*ConnectFest to demonstrate benefits
of onboard networking standard*

SEVERNA PARK, MD—Visitors to the Toronto International Boat Show will get a close-up look at a “live” demonstration that shows how the onboard networking standard NMEA 2000® operates. Attendees will be able to participate in the free event, called ConnectFest, anytime during the nine-day show. Doors open at 10 a.m. on January 10 at Toronto’s Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place.

The action at ConnectFest will involve most major manufacturers connecting their NMEA-certified products to the NMEA 2000 backbone, demonstrating device interoperability on the plug-and-play network. Products will come from Raymarine, Simrad, Lowrance, Furuno, Garmin, Humminbird, Airmar, Maretron, and Actisense, to name a few manufacturers participating.

The NMEA 2000 network is nonproprietary and enables connection and disconnection of products from different manufacturers with no downtime on the network. An industry-wide group of experts organized by the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) developed the network standard.

Visitors will be able to talk with the manufacturers who have built products using the NMEA 2000 protocol. A hands-on opportunity with the NMEA 2000 cable and connector system will illustrate the advantages of the lightweight, quickly installed network and show how systems can be expanded for future needs. ConnectFest will be located at Booth G138.

“For anyone who wants to know more about NMEA 2000 and how it benefits them, the Toronto Boat Show is the place to be. We invite you to stop by our

booth anytime,” said NMEA Managing Director Mark Reedenauer.

For more information, visit www.torontoboatshow.com/education/connectfest/.

Photo caption: ConnectFest draws a crowd at the 2014 METS trade show in Amsterdam.

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 NMEA.org or call 410-975-9425.