



Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services

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For Immediate Release

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RTCM ANNOUNCES EDUCATION AND TRAINING LINEUP FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO

Full schedule covers critical topics of standards and policy

SEVERNA PARK, MD—The Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM) and the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) will hold a combined 2018 Conference and Expo, the largest industry trade event focusing strictly on marine electronics, Sept. 25–28. The venue is the PGA Resort in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, just north of Fort Lauderdale.

By combining the events, attendees may participate in a product expo with technical and educational sessions offered by both organizations. Key decision makers from major marine electronics companies, the U.S. Coast Guard, and government agencies will attend.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, 9/25 and 9/26, the education and training sessions will end before the exposition hall opens, allowing all attendees, including exhibitors, to attend both the program sessions in the morning and the marine electronics expo in the afternoon and evening. RTCM's technical offerings are below. To see the complete, detailed schedule, or to register, visit www.expo.nmea.org or call (410) 975-9425.

RTCM Technology, Standards, and Policy Sessions

Tuesday (9/25), 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

RTCM Opening Session—Includes a business meeting, awards, and remarks by the newly elected president. Learn from introductions and updates by senior national and international leaders, as well as the Coast Guard Commander for the Southeast U.S.

El Faro Investigation Report—A member of the National Transportation Safety Board will present investigative findings, discuss how investigations are conducted, and present some

recorded documentation of valiant efforts by crew members to save the stricken vessel.

Autonomous Vehicles and Precise Navigation—Learn about the intersection of emerging autonomous vehicles and the navigation systems that enable them. The presentation will cover millimeter accuracy, assured integrity, hardware implementations, and policy issues.

Wednesday (9/26), 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

Technology and Inland Waterways Updates—Learn about the latest in emerging and evolving technologies, including ECDIS, AIS, VDES, radar systems, e-navigation, and integrated bridge systems.

Satellite Communication Providers—The industry’s largest satellite telecommunications providers—Inmarsat, Iridium, GlobalStar, Speedcast, ORBCOMM, and others—will provide technology updates and enhancements.

Maritime Cybersecurity—What are the primary cyber issues? Presentation will include discussion about impacts on maritime communities and suggestions for ways forward.

Thursday (9/27), 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Cybersecurity Workshop—A deeper dive into Wednesday’s session, this session will include information sources and development of solutions and ways forward.

Rules, Regulations, and Licensing Seminar—Join us for a morning with FCC and Coast Guard experts conducting a licensing seminar. Contribute and learn when and where licenses are required and how to get them for you and your customers.

Attending government representatives have agreed to be available for individual or group consultations.

GMDSS Task Force Meeting—This is a meeting of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) Task Force, and a report about modernization of the GMDSS. The session will be led by RTCM members who seek input and make recommendations about a broad array of issues critical to the success of a fully responsive global distress and safety system.

Friday (9/28), 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

NOAA Beacon Manufacturers Workshop—Join RTCM and NOAA, along with major 406 MHz beacon manufacturers, for a day-long workshop that will address updates to this important life-saving technology.

To see the complete, detailed schedule, or to register, visit www.expo.nmea.org or call (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 with reliable products and professional service. For more information, visit the NMEA website at www.NMEA.org or call (410) 975-9425.