National Marine Electronics Association

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For Immediate Release

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Third Party Applications
Now Possible with NMEA 2000®

Software developers may now create Third Party Applications that communicate with the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) 2000® Standard through an NMEA 2000® Certified Third Party Gateway. The NMEA 2000® Standard, as well as the additional requirements that the NMEA 2000® Certified Third Party Gateway must meet, are available for purchase at www.NMEA.org.

The NMEA 2000® Standard makes it possible for onboard networking of marine electronics that are certified to the standard, regardless of the manufacturer. Devices may be added or removed from the network's backbone without network interruption or failure.

"The NMEA will also help promote and sell new Third Party Applications through an apps store that will be established soon at NMEA.org," said Steve Spitzer, NMEA's Technical Director. NMEA is an internationally recognized leader in standards, and the training and certification of technical sales and service dealers who provide electronics for the recreational boating and light commercial marine industries.

The NMEA 2000® Third Party Applications work with a NMEA 2000® Certified Third Party Gateway to access the NMEA 2000® backbone. All Third Party Application Gateways must be certified by NMEA and the applications that use them must be approved for each Certified Gateway with which they work. The Third Party Gateway must adhere to the regular NMEA

2000® Certification process and fees. The application publisher pays a fee of only $99 per application that is certified to use with whichever Third Party Gateway model it works.

NMEA 2000® Third Party Applications are described in a document called NMEA 2000® Certified Third Party Gateway, Appendix H Version 1.00 - Electronic. This document defines functional and test requirements for a specific class of NMEA® 2000 product, namely the NMEA 2000® Third Party Application Gateway. This electronic document is available on www.NMEA.org.

The NMEA 2000® Third Party Application Gateway is certified and provides a complete hardware and software interface to the NMEA 2000® backbone on one side of the gateway. On the other side of the gateway, it provides a defined Application Program Interface (API) in order to support software applications that meet certain criteria.

For additional information, please click on the NMEA Standards link at www.NMEA.org or call the Steve Spitzer at: 425-417-8042.

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