



National Marine Electronics Association

846 Ritchie Highway, Suite L4, Severna Park, MD 21146 • 410-975-9425

For Immediate Release

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

September 27, 2021

NMEA NAMES 2021 AWARD WINNERS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO

- *NMEA Product of Excellence Awards presented in 18 categories*
- *NMEA Best New Product Award goes to Shadow-Caster's Light Commander*
- *NMEA Technology Award goes to Furuno's NavNet TZT16F*
- *NMEA Manufacturer of the Year—Garmin*

SEVERNA PARK, MD—Twenty products garnered top honors in three separate award competitions at the 2021 NMEA Marine Electronics Conference & Expo, held last week at the Orlando Doubletree Universal Hotel in Florida. NMEA members cast their votes online in 18 categories for the Product of Excellence Awards while a panel of independent judges named winners in both the NMEA Technology Award and Best New Product contests.

“On behalf of the NMEA Board of Directors, staff, and membership body, we congratulate all 2021 award winners,” said Mark Reedenauer, NMEA President & Executive Director. “The entrant count for the Best New Product Award exceeded our expectations, which sends the message that there is extreme value for manufacturers to introduce new products at the NMEA Conference, where only the trade can view these new innovations. We will continue to improve the awards for 2022 by adding categories as the industry evolves and we get feedback from the membership.”

2021 Product of Excellence Awards

Marine VHF—ICOM M605
Radar—Furuno DRS4DNXT
Satellite Communications Antenna—KVH TracPhone V30
Multi-Function Display—Garmin GPSMAP 8616xsv
Multimedia Entertainment—Fusion Apollo MS-RA770
NMEA 2000 Sensor—Furuno SCX20 Satellite Compass
Marine PC Software—Nobeltec TimeZero Pro
Marine Apps-Utility—Garmin ActiveCaptain
Marine Specialty—Furuno CSH8LMK2 Omni Sonar
Satellite TV Antenna—KVH TracVision UHD7
Fishfinder—Furuno DFF3D Multi-Beam Sonar

Marine Camera—Teledyne/FLIR M364C
AIS—Furuno FA170 Class A
Autopilot—Garmin Reactor 40 with SmartPump v2
Remote Monitoring—Maretron N2KView
Safety Device—Garmin GPSMAP 86sci Handheld
Commercial—Furuno FAR2228BB IMO Radar
Wi-Fi/Cellular Device—KVH TracPhone LTE-1

Manufacturer of the Year Award

NMEA members also voted on the manufacturer that demonstrated superior support of their products to those who install and service them in the field. NMEA and the membership congratulate Garmin on winning this award.

Best New Product Award

NMEA's Best New Product Award celebrates one product that was introduced to the market at the NMEA Conference & Expo, which a panel of four judges deemed best in the areas of innovation, benefit to boaters, practicality and value. Six new products were entered in the competition.

Taking top honors was Shadow-Caster's Light Commander—the first marine lighting controller to work with the new NMEA 2000 lighting control PGNs. These messages allow users of the six-zone controller to plug into an onboard network and instantly see which lights are available on the system and to control them.

NMEA Technology Award

The NMEA Technology Award names a single marine electronics product that scores highest in the same four criteria categories that are used for the Best New Product Award. The judges chose Furuno's NavNet TZT16F TZtouch 3 v2 as the winner from among 10 entries.

"The enhanced MFD sports innovative new functions, including the Personal Bathymetric Generator, which when linked to Furuno's multi-beam sonar, can quickly create custom high-resolution shaded relief maps of the sea floor," the judges said. "Another new feature called Fish-It/Drift-It allows fishermen to locate the correct spot to begin their drift to put them over a fishing waypoint and then create range rings and course line on the display, saving time and fuel."

Judges this year for both the Technology and New Product Awards were Brian Swanke of CWR Distribution, Ben Stein of *Panbo*, Max Stein of Max Marine Electronics and *Marine Electronics Journal* editor Jim Fullilove.

NMEA congratulates all 2021 winners and looks forward to an even better awards program in 2022.

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.