

1st Edition - Summer 2010



Product Service

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**Choose certainty.  
Add value.**

# MARINE :: Talk

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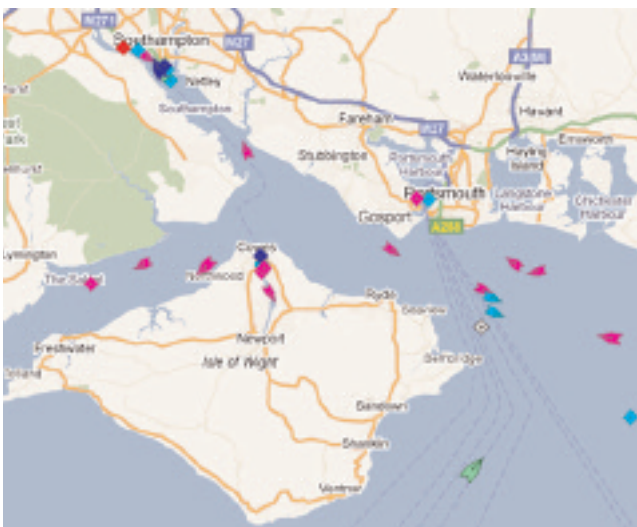
# Dear Readers:

Welcome to the first edition of **MARINE::Talk**, the new Marine Newsletter from TÜV Product Service. This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about regulatory changes within the industry, as well as keep you updated with our latest activities and services from both TÜV Product Service and BABT. We hope that you find it an enjoyable and worthwhile read!

**Jean-Louis Evans - Managing Director**

## The Truth about AIS

Some manufacturers of Automatic Identification System (AIS) products believe that they need to seek accreditation approval from their local national laboratory in order to get their products AIS approved. However, this is not the case, as EU Notified Bodies and accredited testing organisations like BABT and TÜV Product Service are authorized under the MED to carry out testing and certification of products destined for use in any country within the European Union.



AIS is a short range coastal tracking system that is used on ships and leisure boats for identifying and locating vessels automatically by exchanging electronic data with other nearby ships and vessel traffic stations. AIS information supplements, but does not replace, marine radar, which continues to be the primary method of collision avoidance for water transport.

TÜV Product Service can complete type testing on behalf of AIS equipment manufacturers worldwide to ensure that their products are able to communicate with any other AIS equipment in use. Product approval also ensures that the AIS system operates in a compatible way with other marine communication and navigation systems.



Our customers can now monitor their test programmes online through a High Quality, Secure network using TÜV Product Service's new Remote Monitoring Service at No Extra Cost.

### Benefits include:

- **Timeliness and Speed of Results**
  - You can view high-quality images of your test programme via the Internet and monitor your sample's performance during testing as it happens.
- **Save Time & Reduce your Travel Costs**
  - There's no need to travel to our test facility to set-up and drive your equipment
  - Our test engineers can do this under your guidance via the video monitoring link
- **Control and Convenience**
  - Control the camera with ease from the convenience of your office using the controls on your desktop to Zoom in and out, and direct the camera at any points of interest during the testing.
- **Ease of Use**
  - It's easy to use, but our IT department is available to resolve any issues you may encounter



*Quake Global, a leading manufacturer of satellite communicators based in California, has worked with TÜV Product Service in a pilot to test the new Remote Monitoring Service. Sergio Ramos, Quake's Chief Technical Officer, said: 'There is great value in a service such as this, whether you are UK-based or an international company'.*

# Ask The Expert

## Marine Equipment Directive (96/98/EC)

The Marine Equipment Directive (MED) was originally adopted by the EU in 1996 and, following a number of subsequent amendments, is now the backbone for the approval of most marine equipment in the European Union. The MED was implemented to enhance safety at sea, improve the prevention of marine pollution and establish a harmonised system for type approval procedures. It is also intended to help establish testing standards, set the conformity criteria for assessments and aid the free circulation of marine equipment within the EU.

### **Can equipment, which is covered by the Marine Directive (96/98/EC), be installed on non-SOLAS ships or should such equipment in addition be assessed to the R&TTE Directive?**

The question has also arisen whether such equipment has to comply with the marking requirements of the R&TTE Directive and be compliant with its administrative provisions. Equipment, which meets the requirements of the MED, clearly meets the technical requirements of the R&TTE Directive, including those imposed by Decision 200/638/EC. There are therefore no technical reasons for a reassessment of such products for installation on other than SOLAS ships. Furthermore, products covered by the MED can freely circulate and be used within the European Community. The MED does not lay down any restrictions of use.

Although it has been argued that equipment covered under the MED should comply with the administrative provisions of the Directive, i.e. notification, marking and user information, our view is that such equipment doesn't need to be notified as it operates in harmonised bands and is marked to indicate that it can freely be marketed in the EU (albeit with a steering wheel, which deviates from CE marking). As regards to user information, there is no need to indicate geographic restrictions, whereas it may reasonably be assumed that any buyer is aware of its intended purpose. There are no reasons to forbid the usage of equipment covered by the MED as being incompatible with the R&TTE Directive.

### **How can I get my AIS product test and certified?**

TÜV Product Service can complete type testing on behalf of AIS equipment manufacturers worldwide to ensure that the products are able to communicate with any other AIS equipment in use and that the system integrates with marine products such as the communications and navigation systems. Our comprehensive testing laboratory, is fully equipped to test AIS products to EN / IEC 60945 and 61993-2.

TÜV Product Service's certification body, BABT, is a Notified Body under the Marine Equipment Directive 96/98/EC. For certification to the Marine Equipment Directive, BABT can carry out conformity assessment procedures for Modules B, D, E, F and G.

Once a technical file has been compiled, BABT can certify your products. The assessment consists of a Type Examination of the product and Product Quality Assurance Assessments (Modules B and D) of the facility where the product is manufactured. A successful certification assessment from BABT will result in your products gaining the Marine Equipment Directive Wheel Mark.

Although BABT provides certification for the Marine Equipment Directive, it is not mandatory to get your products tested by TÜV Product Service. Any ISO 17025 approved test house can be used. However, TÜV Product Service is the UK's leading Environmental, Radio Frequency, EMC and Safety testing laboratory, offering all these tests under one roof at its comprehensively equipped test laboratory in Fareham, Hampshire. If you choose to use TÜV Product Service and BABT respectively for the testing and certification of your products, you will receive a one stop service enabling you faster market access, all provided from one location and one project manager – making testing and certification a simple process.



## Webinars: A new way of learning!

Webinars are a new medium that allow presentations and training to be communicated over the web. It is very simple to enjoy the benefits as all you need to view and hear webinars is internet access and a sound-enabled PC.

**And our webinars are free and take no longer than 60 minutes!**

Our webinars are presented by TÜV SÜD Product Service experts, providing you with up to the minute information that affect you as compliance professionals along with the opportunity to interact from the convenience of your office or home.

### Upcoming Webinars

**Wednesday 8th December at 14:00 -  
The EU Marine Equipment Directive**

For more information on these topics and to register for one of our webinars, please visit our website at [www.tuvps.co.uk/webinars](http://www.tuvps.co.uk/webinars). As soon as you have registered for a webinar, we will send you some simple instructions showing you what you need to do on the day to be able to enjoy these interactive seminars over the web.

**If you have any further questions, please contact Simon Middleton at [smiddleton@tuvps.co.uk](mailto:smiddleton@tuvps.co.uk) or Tel: +44 (0)1489 558221.**



**FREE  
WEBINARS**  
at the touch of a button

# TÜV Product Service, the world's leading Cospas-Sarsat accredited laboratory

**One of only a handful of Cospas-Sarsat accredited laboratories in the world, TÜV Product Service's Emergency Beacons laboratory is capable of testing several beacons simultaneously and offers much reduced lead times in completing and reporting on full Cospas-Sarsat test programmes compared to any other lab.**

Our development team and dedicated test engineers have 30 years' experience in the field between them to provide you with expert advice on devising and implementing your testing in the most efficient way.

In addition to full Cospas-Sarsat testing, TÜV Product Service can offer multi-discipline (Environmental, EMC, Radio and more) testing and certification of your beacon in accordance with the requirements of the EU Marine Equipment Directive, with RTCM standards for the US market, and according to many other international market specifications, including those for Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

