13th March 2008

Godby shipping rolls out Wired Ocean across its entire fleet

Low cost, feature rich marine broadband solution continues to gain ground with ship-owners and operators

Wired Ocean, the low cost solution to broadband internet at sea has been installed aboard the entire *Godby Shipping* fleet. The seven vessel installation of the unique Wired Ocean system, which commenced in September 2007 was carried out by *Telemar Finland* and completed when the final vessel in the fleet, Miranda, took delivery of the system in February 2008.

Wired Ocean is a sophisticated marine broadband system, designed to deliver shore to ship data via a vessel's satellite TV antenna. This dramatically reduces incoming data costs – traditionally the largest bill for internet use at sea – making Wired Ocean ideal for high volume applications such as internet browsing, downloading email with attachments, obtaining electronic manuals and weather and navigation data for bridge and critical systems.

"Godby Shipping can benefit from an overall reduction in communication costs with Wired Ocean onboard all of its vessels," comments Timo Kuokka, General Manager of Wired Ocean's Finnish distributor, Telemar Finland. "Although we aren't offering a complete replacement for standalone satcoms, the costs of using Wired Ocean for shore to ship data are lower than traditional satcoms systems and the built-in communications management functionality adds further value."

Integrating the Wired Ocean Satellite Broadband Server (SBS) into a vessel's communication network is the key to realising these lower costs and extra functionality. The system is the ideal complement to vessels already fitted with or seeking to purchase a DVB-S television antenna as this is how Wired Ocean provides the shore to ship data. GPRS or other satcoms systems such as VSAT, Fleet and the just launched FleetBroadband are required for data from ship to shore.

Though entering the broadband era with little extra cost is a primary reason for installing Wired Ocean, the sophisticated SBS also offers strong functionality as a communications hub. It can be used as a switching device for a vessel's entire communications network and a unique caching system means that only new content of previously viewed web pages needs to be downloaded for faster and economical internet browsing.

"Broadband at sea is now a reality but although the technology exists, the costs are still prohibitive. By reducing the shore to ship data costs Wired Ocean can have a dramatic affect on a vessel or fleet's overall communications spend, whilst further enhancing the functionality of onboard communications," comments Victor Barendse, Managing Director, Wired Ocean.

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