



BROADBAND FOR YACHTS JUST GOT EASIER

London, April 2007: NSSL, an international satellite communications provider, is enhancing a popular service for yachts that enables high speed internet access from some of the busiest maritime areas. The service, known as CruiseIP, allows yacht owners to duplicate land-based communications at sea. This means yacht owners can make international telephone calls, surf the web, trade in stocks and shares, access corporate networks and even download newspapers from the comfort of their yacht "as if they were at home". CruiseIP has become increasingly popular because running costs are typically fifteen times lower than Inmarsat Fleet, the current market leader for maritime broadband. CruiseIP users also benefit from global 24 hour support, meaning that any technical problems or lost connections can be very quickly dealt with.

Bob Chewter, Managing Director of NSSL said, "Increasingly yacht owners need to be in touch with land whilst at sea. Things have now come a long way since the days of radio. With CruiseIP, the communication possibilities for yacht owners are limitless. Yacht owners using CruiseIP can listen to the radio; take part in video-conferencing; download TV shows like 'Lost'; trade in stocks and shares; download music and access files from the office." He went on to say, "Whilst many of us like to see time on a boat as time away from the hustle and bustle of the world, the reality is that the majority of us now need to keep in touch wherever we are."

CruiseIP works by connecting the onboard computer to a satellite communication modem and antenna which is also located on the yacht. A constant communication link is established between the vessel and the internet via a satellite ground earth station based in North America. All communications, both data and voice, are routed via the internet.

The installation of two new 'gateways' in the United States (which go live in April 2007) is enabling this improvement to CruiseIP. A 'gateway' is a powerful base station on earth used to send radio waves to satellites in space. With two extra

'gateways' NSSL will be able to offer CruiseIP yacht owners greater functionality. First, the gateways will extend the range of CruiseIP to include popular yachting routes frequented by business and leisure users in the Pacific, Caribbean and Mediterranean. Second, the gateways will also enable NSSL to offer guaranteed network reliability under one service provider's control – something no other supplier is currently doing. Other supplementary benefits include a dedicated voice service, ability to prioritise video conferencing traffic and capability for customers to customise packages based on either bandwidth and/or contention ratio.

Bob Chewter, adds, "These enhancements to CruiseIP will make high speed broadband more reliable and accessible to yacht owners than ever before. At NSSL, we believe yacht based communication systems have finally 'come of age'. High speed broadband is no longer the preserve of the few, but accessible to the many, bringing land based communications to the yacht like never before in history."

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www.satcom-solutions.com

Notes for editors

About Cruise-IP

Launched in June 2005, Cruise-IP is the low cost alternative to VSAT, offering high quality broadband IP at speeds up to 2Mb with existing coverage in the US, Caribbean and Mediterranean.

About NSSL

Established in 1969, NSSL Ltd is an independent service provider for satellite communications solutions, and one of the top Inmarsat service providers worldwide. With a wide range of services and extensive experience of systems integration and application development, its focus is on the maritime, government, energy, media, finance and corporate sectors. The company provides voice, data and broadband solutions anywhere in the world. Based in the UK, NSSL has offices in the US, Houston, Singapore and a network of agents and engineers worldwide to provide service support to its global customer base.

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