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on the globe you find yourself and so long as you're no more than 200 miles offshore. The M3 is motorised, so the dish automatically tracks whichever satellite you want to lock onto. It's aimed at smaller craft, up to 25ft or so. If you have space up top for a bigger dish, it's worth it; TracVision makes 'em all. £3,999. See www.kvh.com for stockists or call 0845-260 0620.




THURAYA SG-2520

If you're looking for a satphone that doesn't make you look ridiculous when you use it on dry land, this, from Dubai's Thuraya, is probably the one. Looking to all the world like a normal (if slightly hefty) civilian mobile, with its modest but OK 1.3 Megapixel camera, pleasant, colourful interfaces and so on, the SG-2520 is, indeed, a normal tri-band GSM phone.

But with one pull of the thick black satellite aerial, it morphs into the kind of thing Jack Bauer (or more accurately, the baddies he fights) would use in 24. Satellite coverage will see you right in across UK and other European waters, the Med, the Gulf and much more - see vendor Satcom Solutions' site for map). A cool, unfussy way to do normal phone stuff like MMS and texting even when you're way out on the briny. About £793, from www.satcom-solutions.co.uk or call 01737-648 800.