



MOBILARM ADDRESSES MARINE WORKPLACE SAFETY AT MARINE SAFETY CONFERENCE

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Mobilarm Ltd CEO, Lindsay Lyon provided delegates at the Marine Safety Conference, hosted by the (Australian) National Marine Safety Committee in Adelaide on 27th May 2008 with an insight into marine workplace safety and the benefits to safety of life derived from improving reaction time to MOB alerts on offshore and commercial vessels. As CEO of Mobilarm, the company behind the new V100 VPIRB – an innovative VHF based MOB safety device, Lyon offered a unique insight into the life saving possibilities that this new technology can provide.

“MOB events are the cause of one third of all fatalities in the commercial marine industry and surprisingly, two thirds of MOB events occur in good weather, good visibility and light to moderate winds,” explains Lyon. “With these statistics, it’s clear that the current systems in place for preventing and dealing with MOB events could be improved, especially with the commitment to, and availability of technology based solutions we now have in the marine industry.”

A key part of Lyon’s message to the conference delegates was that reaction time to MOB events is critical, and very often makes the difference between life and death. His presentation demonstrated the sharp incline in the time in water/water temperature curve as less than 2 hours in 5°C water could cause death from exposure whilst even water temperatures up to 20°C could still lead to exhaustion by hypothermia and eventual drowning. It’s with these concerns that Mobilarm developed a new technology, known as a VPIRB, or VHF Position Indicating Radio Beacon, which is being used in the first ever fully

automatic, GPS enabled Marine Survivor Locating Device (MSLD), the Mobilarm V100 VPIRB.

“Like the introduction of safety products in any industry, it takes innovators time to develop the best use of a concept. Today, technology is no longer a barrier to improving the reaction time during a MOB event,” says Lyon. “The V100 notifies surrounding vessels and shore-based VHF receiving stations in range by VHF with an alarm and regular GPS position reports if activated automatically or manually by a MOB event. It essentially covers all bases by enabling a rescue to be initiated immediately by vessels close by and letting SAR organisations know exactly where the casualty is, in case assistance is required.”

The commercial marine industry workplace is a highly dangerous environment but until now, traditional MOB safety products have not fully met the needs of the people who make their living in the world’s most perilous environment. As a new generation in MOB safety devices, the V100 VPIRB was extremely well received by the business and government delegates at the Marine Safety Conference, with Mobilarm reporting high interest from all areas of the commercial marine industry and the military.

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Mobilarm V100 VPIRB reviewers guide

The attached V100 VPIRB guide fully explains the concept and capabilities of the unique V100 VPIRB, the safest and most advanced MOB system ever devised.

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Notes for editors:

Based in Perth, Australia, Mobilarm is the world leader in electronic marine safety products that protect and save lives in man overboard emergencies for commercial and recreational mariners. Available online and through a global network of dealers and distributors, Mobilarm's award-winning products are specifically designed to improve the workplace safety environment for all mariners, by providing an instant alert to vessel and crew in the event of man overboard.

The company's Australian and International awards include the Australian Design Award and the winner of the Seatrade Safety at Sea Award, the first such award given to an Australian company.