

PUTTING SAFETY IN THE HANDS OF THE COMMERCIAL MARINER WITH A UNIQUE NEW MOB DEVICE FROM MOBILARM

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

***2008 International Work Boat Show, New Orleans, 3-5
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The Mobilarm V100 from Australian marine safety specialist, Mobilarm, promises to be a safety highlight at the 2008 International Work Boat Show. The Mobilarm V100 is designed to provide faster, more efficient man overboard (MOB) rescue than traditional personal locator beacons.

The Mobilarm V100 is a fully automated, position indicating radio beacon that transmits a MOB distress call via VHF DSC and VHF voice to all VHF radio equipped vessels within range, including the distressed mariner's vessel. The pocket-sized V100 is attached to clothing or lifejackets and will automatically activate if the wearer goes overboard, sending out a distress call and real time GPS coordinates of the casualty's current position.

The Mobilarm V100 automatically sends out the initial 'Mayday, Man Overboard' alarm via DSC data using VHF DSC channel 70. As soon as a GPS lock is obtained via the integrated 24 channel GPS receiver, usually within 30 seconds, the device transmits the distress call again, complete with position coordinates on channel 70, and also in a synthesized voice on VHF channel 16. The message is repeated at regular intervals to update the rescuers on the current position of the person in the water. This continues until the device is deactivated when the casualty is rescued; the

Mobilarm V100 battery will support transmission for at least 18 hours in normal conditions.

Another tangible benefit of the Mobilarm V100 is that as long as a VHF radio is onboard, no other equipment need be installed. Unlike 121.5 MHz direction finding beacons and satellite locating systems, which demand dedicated receiving base stations, direction finding equipment or satellite time rental, the V100 uses only existing industry standard VHF marine radio networks.

“Man overboard is the single largest cause of marine fatalities and we know that employers in commercial workboat industries are always looking for ways to improve workplace safety,” said CEO of Mobilarm Mr Lindsay Lyon. “The Mobilarm V100 is the smallest and lightest PLB device currently on the market so it won’t get in the way when crew are working in confined spaces or carrying additional equipment. As a stand-alone device that requires no specialist training either to use or to respond to, the Mobilarm V100 means that any mariner can choose to secure themselves in case of a MOB incident, regardless of where they are working.”

Sending an emergency signal to nearby vessels, rather than an onshore location, means that the other crew members who are usually in the best position to conduct a rescue, are alerted and deployed virtually immediately on hearing the DSC alarm. This reduces the casualty’s time in the water and represents a quantum improvement in their chances of survival.

The Mobilarm V100 is suitable for use in any maritime application and is a highly cost effective, practical life saving device that vastly improves location and recovery in a MOB situation.

To find out more about the Mobilarm V100 visit www.mobilarm.com.

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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 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.