



KVH Industries Introduces the eTrac Satellite E-mail System for Maritime Applications

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The KVH eTrac Equips Vessels with Worldwide, Affordable Access to E-mail and Real-time Position Reporting

MIDDLETOWN, R.I., Feb 14, 2002 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- The compact KVH eTrac, introduced today at the Miami International Boat Show by KVH Industries (Nasdaq: KVHI), offers mariners a combination of global e-mail access via the new Inmarsat mini-C system and real-time GPS position reporting, creating a great standalone communications center for leisure craft and an invaluable business tool for any commercial vessel. eTrac's e-mail capabilities and worldwide coverage via Inmarsat mini-C make it the ideal, low-cost solution for vessel owners and fleet managers who need to keep in touch wherever they are worldwide.

"Real-time access to e-mail is a great way for mariners traveling to remote locations to communicate with family, friends, business associates, and other vessels," said Ian Palmer, vice president of satellite sales. "With the introduction of eTrac, KVH Industries has not only made real-time e-mail at sea a reality but we've made it affordable for fleets of vessels as well as individual boat owners."

Standing less than 6" high and weighing only 2.4 lbs., the eTrac antenna is a fully integrated unit, containing a transceiver, antenna, and a 12-channel GPS receiver. Brought to market in cooperation with Thrane & Thrane, the leading designer of Inmarsat equipment, the system offers e-mail, position reporting and polling, fax, telex, X.25, mobile-to-mobile communications, non-SOLAS emergency alerting, reception of weather charts, and electronic chart correction. With minimal power requirements and a rugged design, eTrac is the ideal solution for e-mail communication, fleet management, and monitoring. Access to information is made easy through either on-board computers or the optional eTrac Message Terminal.

"The KVH eTrac is an outstanding solution for vessels and fleet managers who need to stay in touch wherever they are worldwide," Palmer commented. "In addition to the e-mail and other data services, eTrac also provides real-time position reporting via its integrated GPS receiver. When combined with fleet management software, you can not only communicate with every eTrac-equipped vessel in the fleet but you can track their position and progress worldwide in real-time."

Thrane & Thrane, founded in 1981, is one of the world's leading manufacturers of terminals and land earth stations for global mobile satellite communication via the Inmarsat system. The company provides equipment for land-based, maritime, and aeronautical use. Thrane & Thrane has manufactured approximately 35 percent of the Inmarsat-compatible systems in use worldwide. Thrane & Thrane has also been selected by Inmarsat to design, develop, and manufacture the ground infrastructure that will be used by Inmarsat's next generation of satellites, scheduled for launch in 2004.

KVH Industries, Inc., is a leading provider of innovative high-bandwidth communications products. Using proprietary fiber optic and satellite antenna technology, the company is developing next-generation systems with greater precision, durability, and versatility for communications, navigation, and industrial applications. An ISO 9001-registered company, KVH has headquarters in Middletown, Rhode Island, with a fiber optic manufacturing facility in Illinois, and a European sales, marketing and support office in Hoersholm, Denmark.

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