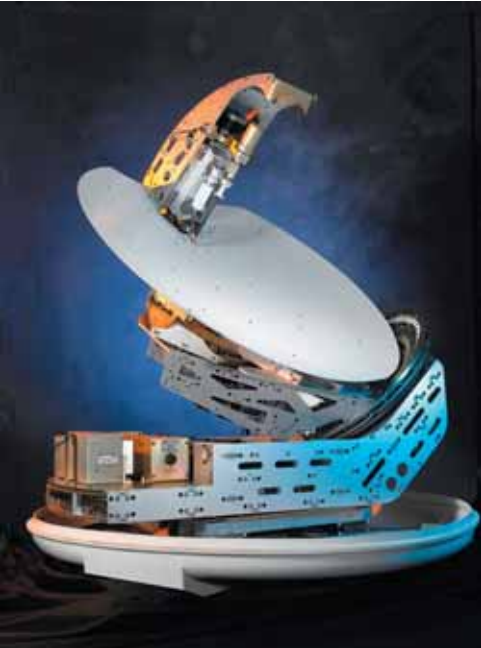


Brazilian type approval for Orbit VSAT

www.orbit-techgroup.com

Orbit reports that it has received type approval for its OrSat Ku-band maritime stabilised antenna system from Anatel, the Brazilian telecommunications agency.

Orbit says that its OrSat technology is the only antenna system of its kind to have already received type approvals from



Orbit's antenna is the first to hold Intelsat, Eutelsat and Anatel approvals

major satellite operators Intelsat and Eutelsat, eliminating the need to individually verify the RF performance of the system prior to entering into operation on these networks.

Anatel type approval can now be added to this list, meaning that service providers in Brazilian waters can immediately offer services over the OrSat system.

"This new additional approval marks another important step for Orbit and, in particular, for OrSat," said Ehud Netzer, Orbit CEO.

"Following its recent breakthrough success with global Ku coverage capability, this additional type approval means that OrSat continues to distinguish itself in performance, in cost efficiency and in service."

Orbit has also recently agreed a \$1.6 million deal with Milano Teleport to provide additional OrSat systems for Milano's ISeaGlobal broadband marine communication platform. This is an add-on order to a previously agreed contract of \$1.9 million.

This deal includes a service agreement whereby Milano Teleport will provide service and technical support as Orbit's Advanced Service Centre (ASC) in Italy.

Blue Ocean agrees \$25m financing deal

www.blueoceanwireless.com

Maritime GSM provider Blue Ocean Wireless Ltd (BOW) has partnered with Bank of London and The Middle East PLC (BLME), a London-based wholesale Sharia'a compliant bank, to provide asset financing for the continued roll out of its service.

This partnership provides access to an asset finance facility of \$25 million to support BOW growth targets.

BOW had previously been involved in a number of fundraising initiatives through the introduction of new shareholders into the business, as founder Claret Capital sold stakes in the company to Japanese communications company NTT DOCOMO (see page 6), Philippines mobile phone company Smart Communications, and Bank of Scotland (Ireland), a wholly owned subsidiary of HBOS Plc.

Irish remote communications company Altobridge, which provides the technology for the BOW system, is also a shareholder.

BOW has also recently announced the successful installation of its GSM service aboard the Happy Bird, owned by a company in the Othello Shipping Company

group, and managed by Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement.

This installation was completed as part of a recently announced deal between BOW and Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement to install GSM services. The CAP BRETON (ex Christiane Schulte) was the first vessel equipped under the agreement.

Captain Mendoza of Happy Bird commented: "The service is easy to use and BOW SIM cards can be inserted into the crews' own mobile phones. In a short time, it has proved reliable, robust and, most importantly, real value for money."

In other news, BOW has announced a partnership deal with satcom distributor Navarino Telecom to offer the BOW GSM solution to Navarino's customer base of more than 400 shipping companies.

"We are committed to anticipating our clients' differing and evolving business needs," said Konstantinos Katsoulis, VP sales and marketing, Navarino Telecom.

"The ability to provide a cost effective GSM solution, which also provides SMS and e-mail capability, is now a must for our product portfolio. We anticipate a strong take up for the BOW service from our global client base."

US Coast Guard unveils new IT strategy

www.uscg.mil

The US Coast Guard has published a new strategic plan that it says will enhance and modernise its 'Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Technology' (C4&IT) in support of the execution of its missions.

The C4&IT Strategic Plan identifies goals, objectives and initiatives in the areas of information, technology, and security, set out over the next five years.

By targeting C4&IT efforts in each of these areas, the Coast Guard says it can work to improve mission support while creating a foundation for future enhancements.

"This strategy was inspired by Coast

Guard Commandant, Adm. Thad Allen's vision of a flexible, agile and modern Coast Guard," said Rear Adm. David T. Glenn, assistant commandant for C4&IT.

"It confirms our commitment to delivering world-class C4&IT solutions in support of the Coast Guard's missions of maritime safety, security and stewardship."

"The Coast Guard needs C4&IT to seamlessly communicate and share information. This plan identifies specific initiatives and milestones so that we may continue to meet this need."

The plan is available on the internet by navigating to <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg6/> and clicking on the C4&IT Strategic Plan link.

Trac Networks and **Wavefield Inseis** have announced the successful implementation of a stabilised DVB-RCS system onboard the M/V Malene Østevold, a vessel engaged in worldwide seismic operations. **C2SAT** has provided the antenna for use in the system.

Headland Media reports that it has acquired **Walport International**, a maritime training film and crew entertainment company that has been in operation since the 1950s. Headland Media also comprises the former **TEAMtalk Satellite** business.

SingTel and **MCP (Maritime Communications Partner)** have announced an alliance whereby SingTel will offer MCP's maritime GSM and wireless services over VSAT communications systems as part of its offering to the shipping industry.

www.trac-id.com
www.c2sat.com
www.headlandmedia.com
www.singtel.com
www.mcp.com

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