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FURUNO INTRODUCES THE FA50 CLASS-B AIS PERFECT FOR RECREATIONAL AND NON-SOLAS VESSELS

Camas, WA — Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) have been available in Class-A format since 2003, but cost and sometimes space constraints have kept these safety aids off recreational and other non-SOLAS vessels. Recently, the US Coast Guard approved the Class-B regulations for AIS, bringing this important piece of equipment into reach for any size vessel. Furuno's FA50 Class-B AIS transponder is a compact black box system that can be connected to a NavNet 3D or NavNet vx2 network, as well as through a PC's through an Ethernet connection, or transfer data to other AIS capable equipment via NMEA0183.

The FA50 is an AIS Transponder/Receiver that enhances safe navigation by exchanging critical information via a VHF data link to and from vessels equipped with both Class-A and Class-B AIS transponders. When it is connected with NavNet 3D, (also compatible with NavNet vx2), your situational awareness will be greatly increased. So how does it do this? It receives AIS information that includes other vessel's position, course/speed over ground, heading, rate of turn and a variety of other data. It also sends this same AIS information about your vessel to them. This is especially helpful when the vessels cannot be seen on Radar. AIS targets are constantly visible, even when they are shrouded in fog, darkness, behind headlands, river bends or other obstructions.

In addition to connecting the FA50 to the products mentioned above, it also outputs AIS data to a PC with a software application that comes standard in the box. It features a powerful dual channel receiver design – 156.025MHz to 162.025MHz for optimal signal reception. The unit is compact, so finding a convenient space to mount it should not be an issue. Protecting your boat and your family is paramount, adding an AIS unit to your electronics suite will give you the added security you need.

For more info on the new Furuno FA50 Class-B AIS, contact: Furuno U.S.A., 4400 N.W. Pacific Rim Blvd., Camas, WA 98607. (360) 834-9300. www.FurunoUSA.com

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