



Tideland buoys and lights to mark Port of Aden

Tideland Signal Limited, the UK-based aids to navigation specialist has won a major contract to supply buoys, lanterns and a racon for the port of Aden.

The main element of the contract, is a total of 28 SB-285P 2.5metre polyethelene buoys and a complete Nav-Link monitoring system. The buoys will be equipped with MLED-120 MaxLumina lanterns and Omnibus Syncmaster flasher control, solar arrays and moorings. In addition, Tideland will also supply four Syncmaster DA-65 flasher units to fit inside the ports existing MLED-120 lanterns, one solar-powered SeaBeacon 2 System 6 racon.

The Tideland buoys will be deployed throughout the port and 21 of them will be equipped with RMC-3 remote monitor and control module to communicate status and GPS position via VHF with the Nav-Link base station installed in the harbour master's office.

The SB-285P has a frame of marine-grade stainless steel, while both the float and tower assemblies are rotationally moulded in UV-stabilised, self-coloured polyethylene filled with expanded polystyrene. The float section is divided into quadrants, so that individual units can be removed and replaced in the event of a major collision. There are no external corrodible parts, the buoys are corrosion-resistant, never need painting and are virtually unsinkable.

MLED-120E is a diode-based lantern offering long life, low maintenance and high efficiency. Compact and lightweight, it is





designed for wide angle vertical divergence and a performance range of 4 to 6+ NM. The water-resistant construction allows the lantern to perform even when periodically submerged. The lanterns for Aden have two tiers of LEDs, programmable sunswitch and flasher time control with a choice of 256 different codes.

The inherent properties of light emitting diodes (LEDs) ensure that the effective intensity of flashing lights is maximised, while the MLED-120E's high-efficiency DC to DC converter provides virtually constant luminous output under a wide range of input power conditions.

Aden is one of the largest natural harbours in the world with an area of approximately 70 sq. km of sheltered water. Facilities have been extensively modernized since the late 1980s and the approach channel to the Inner Harbour has been widened and deepened, so that the port can now handle all types of dry cargo at deep berths served by modern container cranes.

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