



Polish port installs Tideland buoy-mounted automatic identification system

The Gdynia Maritime Office has installed ten new buoy-mounted AIS AtoN (automatic identification system) units from Tideland Maritime Systems as part of a major refurbishment of facilities within the port.

The units are described by Tideland as AIS AtoN, because they are designed specifically for installation on aids to navigation, including buoys, beacons, light ships and lighthouses and capable of full integration into port or coastal AIS networks. Gdynia, which has been operating AIS within its jurisdiction since 2003, has chosen the latest version of the system, VO3 V-Track Informer. Designed to comply with the new IEC standard as well as all IALA and IMO recommendations, VO3 Informer offers extremely low power consumption (0.5Ah/day), coupled with a range of up to 6nm or more and a higher-rated protective housing.

The Gdynia authorities have also ordered a number of Tideland lanterns, which enables them to benefit from V-Track's remote monitoring facility. Data, including on/off status, sunswitch status, battery voltage, active flash code, solar voltage and lamp current can all be displayed on the operator's PC using display software supplied by Tideland. In addition, the system can also be used to broadcast data on weather, tides and sea states using message 8 or 14 or, as a text message, on 6 or 12.

Tideland V-Track Informer broadcasts its name, type and MMSI number, virtual target flag and a warning if it goes off station (in the case of a buoy). This information can be received by all AIS-fitted vessels as well as land stations and will be displayed graphically and in real time on any AIS-enabled electronic chart or radar screen.

Among its other advantages, the Tideland unit can be used for marking tracks, routes, areas and limits, including traffic separation schemes and for identifying offshore

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Tideland Signal



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structures, such as wind farms and oil/gas installations. Tideland V-Track is supplied in a rugged, compact housing which is waterproof and suitable for use on any aid to navigation. Optimum efficiency is achieved when linked to a Tideland lantern, but the unit is equally compatible with other manufacturers' equipment, once an appropriate integration system has been fitted.

Approved to ISO 9001:2008, Tideland Signal Limited is a British-based member of the Tideland group of companies, which specializes in the design and manufacture of aids to marine navigation. The Tideland group is independently owned and has its headquarters in Houston, Texas.

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