

**NEWS ITEM**

**Tideland Signal manufactures shallow water buoy in UK**

Tideland Signal is now manufacturing its new SB-98P multi purpose polyethylene buoy in the UK, rather than importing supplies from North America, providing better availability for customers in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

The new buoy is manufactured by Orchid Plastics of Callington, Cornwall, a specialist in rotational moulding for technical and engineering application. It uses the same materials and methods already proven in Tideland's SB-60, SB-138P and SB-285P models, manufactured in North America and the Middle East. The SB-98P is a multi-purpose buoy, designed for use in fast water up to 6 knots, is particularly suited to shallow water areas, tidal areas, rivers, estuaries and deep harbours, featuring rugged, lightweight construction and permanently self-coloured hull to make it virtually maintenance-free.

An innovative mould and fill manufacturing process prevents significant ingress of water in the event of a puncture. The SB-98P is designed to accommodate Tideland's self-powered MLED-120SC lantern system, which has an effective range of 5NM and a 10m<sup>2</sup> radar can be installed within the top daymark section.

Available in red, green, yellow, white, black, orange and bi-form colours, Tideland's new buoy is offered with the full range of IALA-recommended topmarks rotationally moulded in the same polyethylene material as the hull. Daymark wings are also supplied for can or conical identification.

The rotational moulding process ensures a seamless body, using a mould that provides increased thickness of polyethylene at major stress points in the structure. Before moulding, the polymer is compounded with UV inhibitors and pigment so that the wall thickness is evenly UV stabilised and colour is uniform throughout. As a result, painting is never necessary. In addition, the buoy is unsinkable, corrosion-resistant and resists marine growth.

Approved to ISO 9001:2000, Tideland Signal Limited is a British-based member of the Tideland group of companies, which specialises in aids to navigation and solar generation. The Tideland group is independently owned and has its headquarters in Houston, Texas.

**ENDS**

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