

## TMQ brings Notus Trawlmaster to Australia



Notus Electronics of Newfoundland Canada, have introduced their first Trawlmaster Net Monitoring system into Australia with TMQ International.

In conjunction with Notus, TMQ International has installed the Trawlmaster System on board the prawn trawler 'F.V. Liberty' in Wallaroo, South Australia via TMQ agent Millteck Marine of Port Adelaide.

The system was installed prior to Christmas 2007 by Millteck Marine. Trials and commissioning were carried out on February 7 and 8, 2008 whilst staying out South Australian Fisheries Surveys in Spencer Gulf.

The Trawlmaster system on board 'Liberty' was installed at the request of the vessel owner, enabling him to monitor the twin gear trawl net set up whilst trawling for king prawns.

The system on board 'Liberty' comprises net door opening, monitoring for door spread and distance from the vessel for each net.

Master and slave sensors were set up on both net trawl doors which, when submerged, communicate back to the vessel via a wireless ultrasonic 24kHz signal.

Two on-board hydrophones were fitted for selection of best signal from the master sensors. These were mounted amidships either side of the hull.

The received signals are processed by the Notus command unit coupled up to the vessel's main navigation computer. A separate screen was employed to display the net door spread and distance instantaneously whilst trawling.

The Notus Trawlmaster system features a smart charger to automatically maintain sensor battery condition as required, reducing the possibility of system down time.

Whilst carrying out the Spencer Gulf product survey over two days, the Notus Trawlmaster system performed immediately once the nets were shot away showing the net door spread situation in real time.

Using eight fathom nets and trawling in about 20 metres of water, the door spread started off at 16.7 metres on both nets with the net trawl positioned 100 metres behind the vessel.

Confidence in the knowledge of knowing what is happening with the trawl via the Notus Trawlmaster system will continue to increase efficiency and productivity.

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## Steber build boats against the current flow



Steber International remains buoyant against the rising economic tide of gloom with a new slant on recreational boating.

One Aussie boat builder is taking it all in his stride after identifying a new niche in the local market – surveyed vessels for recreational boating.

Steber International Managing Director, Alan Steber, said it was widely recognised that vessels built to USL Code and inspected by the relevant marine authorities through every phase of their construction and sea trials, were far superior craft than standard recreational boats.

Of the eight large vessels currently under construction at Steber's soon to be extended Taree factory on the NSW mid-North Coast, only one was a non-survey boat. And a recently dispatched 3800 Sport Fisher, built to full USL Code Survey and delivered to her new owner in Dubai, is being used as a recreational boat.

"But one of the biggest reasons for recreational buyers to get into 'built-to-survey-boats' is that they really hold their resale value," said Alan Steber.

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## EVENT CALENDAR

### Superfast

St Petersburg, Russia  
2/7/2008 – 4/7/2008  
www.sname.org/SuperFAST2008cfp

### Design and Operation of Containerships

London, UK  
3/7/2008 – 4/7/2008  
www.rina.org.uk

### International Offshore (Ocean) and Polar Engineering Conference and Exhibition

Vancouver, Canada  
6/7/2008 – 11/7/2008  
www.isopec.org

### International Congress of Underwater Archaeology

London, UK  
7/7/2008 – 14/7/2008  
www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org

### Fish Health Section Meeting

Charlottetown, Canada  
9/7/2008 – 12/7/2008  
www.apel.ca/FHS-AFS2008

### Skretting Australasian Aquaculture

Brisbane, Australia  
3/8/2008 – 6/8/2008  
www.austalian-aquacultureportal.com

### VTS Symposium

Bergen, Norway  
4/8/2008 – 8/8/2008  
www.vts2008.info

### Annual Larval Fish Conference

Kiel, Germany  
4/8/2008 – 7/8/2008  
www.larvalfishcon.org

### Coast to Coast

Darwin, Australia  
17/8/2008 – 21/8/2008  
www.coast2coast.org.au

### Cruise Down Under

Melbourne, Australia  
27/8/2008 – 29/8/2008  
www.cruisedownunder.com

### Asian Shipping and Work Boat

Suntec, Singapore  
24/2/2009 – 26/2/2009  
www.bairst-online.com

### Work Boat Gulf

Bahrain  
6/4/2009 – 8/4/2009  
www.bairst-online.com

### Work Boat China

Dalian, China  
23/6/2009 – 25/6/2009  
www.bairst-online.com

For details on hundreds more global maritime events see the Events Directory on [www.bairst-online.com](http://www.bairst-online.com)