Nauticast-B Class B AIS Compatibility Advisory
November 7, 2008

The Nauticast-B is a fully approved Class B AIS. As such it meets minimum requirements for interfacing with various commercial Chart Plotters that also meet requirements for displaying AIS targets. Some commercial Chart Plotters may require a Software update to display the Class-B Message 24 (Vessel Name).

The Nauticast-B interface cable has one flying lead that is RS-422 compliant. This lead will interface with the NMEA 0183 data port at a baud rate of 38,400. The Interface Cable also has a Serial Port Lead that is RS232 compliant. This lead will interface with PC devices running AIS capable Charting Software. (Some PCs may require a serial to USB converter)

Chart plotter manufactures publish data in the specification sheets and on their web sites about AIS target tracking for their displays. The NMEA ports are usually configurable to accept data at the 38,400 baud rate. Some Chart Plotters only have one NMEA 0183 port. If more then one NMEA device is to be interfaced with the Chart Plotter, than an AIS capable Multiplexer is required.

Multiplexers must be selected based on what other NMEA devices are going to be interfaced and what their requirements are. Multiplexer manufactures publish data in their specification sheets and on their web sites about AIS compatibility for their products.

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