

## AMI unveils new voyage data recorder

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X-VDR includes display, float-free and fixed capsules

AMI Marine has developed a new voyage data recorder (VDR) series that enables full voyage analysis through data replay functions. The X-VDR not only meets the new IMO performance regulations, but also offers greater flexibility, functionality and features to the end-user.

The X-VDR is in compliance with IMO's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) resolution MSC.333(90), which sets performance standards and was enforced from 1 July 2014. It also has built-in redundancy with back-up imaging of the operating system, said AMI director Martin Cox. "X-VDR has real-time backup of the long-term recording medium (LTRM), to ensure maximum operational reliability," he explained.

All configuration files are backed up to the LTRM. X-VDR also has float-free and fixed capsules for fast and effective service calls. Both capsules will record VDR data for a minimum of 48 hours, meeting MSC.333 (90) requirements. AMI has included additional functions in the new VDR.

"The real-time continuous health check, which continuously monitors the VDR, will raise an alert in the case of any event, and a full manual health check can be activated on demand," said Mr Cox. "X-VDR operates on newly-developed playback software, which enables full voyage analysis and data replay. This AMI software has been designed with the user in mind, making it fast, simple and effective to operate."

There is a single data and power cable between the main electronics unit and the X series interfaces, which enables operators to daisy chain multiple interfaces to further reduce installation costs. "This allows flexibility for the addition of equipment that may require connection to the VDR to meet future IMO requirements," said Mr Cox.

X-VDR runs with the new IEC61162-450 network protocol, which is applicable to the collection, storage and playback of important data from the connected radar and ecdis. "The recorded image is broken down into packets, which are sent over network as one of 200, then two of 200 and so forth," Mr Cox explained. "The packets are received and then assembled. The packets are checked on arrival to ensure none have been missed. If any have been missed, a message is sent back over the network requesting the missing data be re-sent, this ensures that the correct number of packets are received and easily assembled."



