

NEW MARINE DEVICE TO SAVE MORE LIVES IN OIL & GAS INDUSTRY

Release date: **5 May 2008**

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Houston, USA

Australian marine technology innovator, Mobilarm, will launch its new commercial marine product to coincide with the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston, 5-8 May 2008. The Mobilarm V100 VPIRB (VHF Position Indicating Radio Beacon) is designed to provide commercial mariners with a faster, more efficient man overboard (MOB) rescue system than traditional personal EPIRB devices.



The Mobilarm V100 is a fully automated, position indicating radio beacon that transmits a MOB distress call via VHF DSC and VHF voice to all VHF radio equipped vessels and land based receivers within range, including the distressed mariner's vessel. The pocket-sized VPIRB is attached to clothing or lifejackets and will automatically activate if the wearer goes overboard, sending out a distress call and real time GPS coordinates of the casualty's current position.

The Mobilarm V100 VPIRB automatically sends out the initial 'Mayday, Man Overboard' alarm via DSC data using VHF DSC channel 70. As soon as a GPS lock is obtained via the integrated 24 channel GPS receiver, usually within 30 seconds, the device transmits the distress call again, complete with position coordinates, and also in a

synthesized voice on VHF channel 16. The message is repeated at regular intervals to update the rescuers on its current position. This continues until the device is deactivated; the Mobilarm V100 battery will support transmission for at least 18 hours in normal conditions.

Commenting on the launch, CEO of Mobilarm Mr Lindsay Lyon, explained how the Company's new VIPRB technology provides significant advantages over current personal EPIRB products. "The probability of survival in a man overboard situation is directly related to the length of time the person spends in the water. Conventional marine personal locating beacons, such as the personal EPIRB, must be manually activated to send a signal, which may be difficult or impossible to do if the person is injured or unconscious. In addition a personal EPIRB transmits its emergency signal to a remote onshore location, which can introduce needless delay in the recovery of the man overboard and can greatly reduce their chances of survival."

Sending an emergency signal to nearby vessels, rather than an onshore location, means that the other crew members who are usually in the best position to conduct a rescue, are alerted and deployed virtually immediately. This reduces the casualty's time in the water and represents a quantum improvement in their chances of survival.

Another tangible benefit to the Mobilarm V100 is that as long as a VHF radio is onboard, no other equipment need be installed. Unlike 121.5 MHz direction finding beacons and satellite locating systems, which demand dedicated receiving base stations, direction finding equipment or satellite time rental, the Mobilarm V100 VIPRB uses only existing industry standard VHF marine radio networks.

"The social responsibility of employers in the oil and gas industries to improve workplace safety was one of the driving forces behind the development of the device," added Mr Lyon. "Providing mariners in demanding working environments with the Mobilarm V100 VIPRB demonstrates the highest degree of commitment to marine safety."

The Mobilarm V100 VIPRB is suitable for use in any maritime application and is a highly cost effective, practical life saving device that vastly improves location and recovery in a MOB

situation. The product will be available through selected dealers, alongside other Mobilarm safety products, throughout the world from July 2008.

-Ends-

Further details:

Lorraine Hammacott

Marketing Manager (PR & Communications)

T: +61 (0)8 9315 3511

E: lorraineh@mobilarm.com

www.mobilarm.com

Or

Clive Bartlett

Saltwater Public Relations

T: +44 (0)1202 669244

E: clive.bartlett@saltwatercoms.com

www.saltwaterpr.com

Notes for editors:

Based in Perth, Australia, Mobilarm is the world leader in electronic marine safety products that protect and save lives in man overboard emergencies for commercial and recreational mariners. Available online and through a global network of dealers and distributors, Mobilarm's award-winning products are specifically designed to improve the workplace safety environment for all mariners, by providing an instant alert to vessel and crew in the event of man overboard.

The company's Australian and International awards include the Australian Design Award and the winner of the Seatrade Safety at Sea Award, the first such award given to an Australian company.