

PRESS RELEASE

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Actisense launch USB NMEA Multiplexer

Actisense has extended its range of NMEA 0183 multiplexers with the NDC-3-USB.

USB connectivity is becoming essential in most marine electronic systems, as most PC's have dropped the serial port that used to connect so easily to the NMEA 0183 bus. Now, with the NDC-3-USB, any PC with USB can connect to an NMEA 0183 network.

The waterproof unit multiplexes together up to four data sources, sending the data to RS232, NMEA and the USB output ports. A "talk-back" feature allows the PC to send data back to the NMEA system from chart software. The unit can be easily installed without requiring detailed technical knowledge.

The multiplexer's firmware can be upgraded using PC software available from the Actisense website. If required, PC configuration software provided allows for various default settings to be changed to suit the user.

"Many customers have been requesting a USB NMEA multiplexer for some time - it is now almost a standard requirement. Installers have been using a USB to RS232 converter cable which, although an option, is not a neat solution - now you can connect directly to your USB port" said John Navin, Business Development Manager at Actisense.

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Note to Editor

Active Research was founded in 1997 to design innovative and reliable marine electronic equipment. We developed the first smart depth sensor, which is now marketed through Airmar Technology Corporation. Active Research has been instrumental in designing products for many marine electronic companies, with many thousands of products on the market showing off the company's design expertise.

The "Actisense" brand name was created in 2001 to help promote the company's growing range of marine interconnection devices and smart sensors. A range of products has now been designed and is being actively marketed with the aim of becoming a leader in the interconnection and sensor market segment.

Active Research has now shipped over 40,000 products, and although relatively unknown at present (as 90% of these products are incorporated into other manufacturers' equipment), Actisense will be releasing a wide range of marine products to the market over the next year, and will be pursuing greater recognition through advertising, press releases and representation at marine trade shows.

Based on the south coast of England in Poole, Active Research Limited has now grown to six employees. Three of these are full time engineers, meaning that the company has a very high investment in R & D, with over 40% of revenues being spent on new product development each year.

Active Research is a member of both the BMF and the NMEA.

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