

Anti-Piracy Satellite Communication "When Communications Really Matters"

Of growing concern across the globe are the deadly pirate attacks on commercial and leisure vessels. How many have died in these maritime attacks? It's unknown, and probably will never accurately be determined. In some cases the attacked ship has disappeared - some may have been sunk or taken to a hidden locale by the pirates, and further complicating the situation, such attacks are bereft of witnesses as no survivors have been found of such incidents.

Protection

International ships equipped with helicopters now patrol the waters where pirate activity has been reported. However, this area is extremely large. Some ships are equipped with anti-piracy weaponry, such as an LRAD (Long Range Acoustic Device, developed by LRAD Corporation). This device directs a sonic wave toward a target, creating a sound so powerful that it shocks and bursts the eardrums of pirates - they then become so disoriented they drop their weapons - the vessel under attack increases speed and engages in evasive maneuvering.

Capture and Release

According to Strategy Page, the anti-piracy patrol off Somalia has captured and prosecuted some 800 pirates so far. However, more than five times that number have been captured and released. More prisons are being built in Somaliland and Puntland



but these must be paid for and supervised by Western nations if they are to have any effective role in detaining pirates.

The key problem is that most nations contributing ships to the anti-piracy patrol are not willing to prosecute and imprison Somali pirates. This has led to the "catch and release" method used by most European navies, mainly because the legal systems back home makes it difficult for the pirates to be prosecuted and easy for the pirates to claim asylum if brought back for trial.

"The deadly pirate attacks on commercial and leisure vessels are a global growing concern"

Under international law, captured pirates may be prosecuted by any nation. Nevertheless, many countries lack domestic law which conforms to international law - local courts in several nations have denied they have jurisdiction over the pirates. Until the Western nations develop the political will to initiate prosecution, these international criminals will continue to win in the war on piracy. Meanwhile, hundreds of sailors continue to be held captive under horrible conditions by Somali pirates, while offshore the mighty world navies play catch and release. This Old Salt Blog entry also states that more than five Somali pirates are released for every one that is prosecuted.

Safe Communications @ Sea

Satellite communications plays a pivotal role at sea and is an affordable way to stay in touch and be tracked anywhere, at any time, across the globe. Most modern commercial vessels cover safety issues in many different ways, but basic satellite communications are normally installed on all vessels.

Beam's Oceana 800 terminal has been deployed onto more than 500 vessels. This offers mariners a host of features, including global coverage for its voice, text and low-speed data services as well as Inmarsat's SOS emergency calling capability and an additional SIM for multiple users. The Oceana

OCEANA 800



800 offers an integrated GPS engine that provides intelligent tracking and instant message (IM) reporting via SMS. The tracking and IM functionality can be configured to support automated periodic polling or IM reporting by pressing a single button.

IsatDOCK Marine Covert Piracy Solution



UPS Battery

Talk Time (Up To)	Stand by time (Up To)
8 hours	22 hours

* All times are an estimate and are calculated assuming that the RST055A UPS Battery and handheld phone (where applicable) are fully charged and connected to the equipment at all times.



Oceana 800 Covert Piracy Solution



UPS Battery

Talk Time (Up To)	Stand by time (Up To)
11 hours	30 hours

* All times are an estimate and are calculated assuming that the RST055A UPS Battery and handheld phone (where applicable) are fully charged and connected to the equipment at all times.



BEAM Covert Piracy Solution

BEAM has developed a packaged solution to ensure that communication is not broken down or lost when all power or communication equipment on board a vessel has been cut off or destroyed by pirates.

The BEAM Covert Piracy Solution is a complete bundled installation that provides an immediate contact/message under threat.

The unit's GPS module provides pinpoint accuracy and enables tracking worldwide. Tracking and alert messages can be sent via SMS.

Tracking and alert messages can be configured to tracking applications, SMS or email address as required.

Alert/Alarm messages can be activated on

the unit or alternatively an additional alert button or other trigger can be connected to the unit.

Once configured the alert system is always on and will generate an alert message to the preset destination once triggered. Alerts can be triggered to continually send until the alert is cleared either remotely or locally on the unit.

