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March 20, 2003

Mr. Andy Leimer
Federal Communication Commission

RE: FCC ID: QXDMIV30
Applicant: Marine Data Systems
Correspondence Reference Number: 24945
731 Confirmation Number: EA448260

Dear Mr. Leimer,

This is in response to our email dated March 14, 2003 with regard to the above application. Please note the following information.

- 1). A revised Request for Confidentiality is provided under the file name:
mds revised request for confidentiality
- 2). A copy of the operation description provided by the applicant is attached for your review. File name: mds operational information
- 3). The non-compliance for the receiver is due to the receiver being an analog design. While in theory it may be possible to design an analog receiver to meet the restrictive co-channel rejection requirement, the complexity of such a design makes it impractical and other performance parameters are affected. This is especially true since the co-channel rejection of the receiver as reported is such that operation and performance will not be hindered nor will other equipment be affected in the environment where AIS equipment will be installed and used. Attached for your review is information on the co-channel, file name: mds co-channel information.
- 4). Additional spurious emission data is covered in Test Report 72MN95901 by Gerotek Test Facilities. Attached for your review under the file name:
mds emissions test report
- 5). This is in regard to Part 80.215(g)(3), bridge-to-bridge operation. The AIS operator on AIS-1 (channel-) and AI-2 (channel-). The only time these are changed is when requested by a competent authority via a DSC message on Channel 70. The competent authority would not select the bridge-to-bridge channels for AIS use. If by error a bridge-to-bridge channel was selected the resulting AIS transmission is so short that it would not be noticed on the bridge-to-bridge channel. Therefore, it is requested that the automatic power reduction requirement should not apply to the AIS unit.

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For your additional information, please note the following. Attached are copies of certificates received from the United States Coast Guard granting approval for this product. Approval is granted in the United States Representatives name.

US Representative: Tideland Signal Corporation
USCG Certificate #: 16714/46 CFR 161.155 Dated: March 19, 2003
Certificate #: 165.155, Dated: March 19, 2003

Attached under file name(s): mds USCG cert 1 and mds USCG cert 2

For your general information, if needed, a copy of the Compass Safe Distance Test for Marine Equipment, tested by Hermanus Magnetic Observatory, is available on their website for the above product. Website Address: www.tidelandmaritime.com/wayne.htm

We respectfully request that you review the attachments and if you have any questions or problems, please contact us. We would appreciate any and all assistance you can provide to help expedite the approval on this product.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne Langston".

Wayne Langston