



Islander August 2008 Technology Update

Agroturismo in Asturias in August - without technology

I am writing this on my laptop high in the mountains in Asturias in the Parque Natural de Somiedo. Blue sky is interspersed with steam train puffy clouds. The air is clear and the temperature peaks at around 25 degrees. We are sleeping under duvets again at night and it is mid August! My family and I left Mallorca a few days ago numbed by the heat to find some respite and we have found it without leaving Spain.

We are staying in a converted shepherd's cottage in a high pasture, today accessed by a tricky road, not for the faint hearted. This was where the farmers brought their cattle to graze on the good, new grass in the summer months.

The wind is blowing down the valley causing a wave of rustling leaves to pass through the trees surrounding the babbling brook. No need to worry about your anchor dragging with the gusts, no need to book that restaurant to ensure you get a table and no need to worry about missing that phone call, as the phone doesn't ring - there is no GSM signal here! I didn't expect to find HSDPA here, possibly not 3G, but there is no voice signal let alone text for the girls! How do we survive?

I have to say it is unusual these days to be ashore and not have cell phone coverage in some form or other. It makes you realise how scarily dependant you have become. It is the technological equivalent of cold turkey.

Yesterday we went back down the scary road to the nearest, largish village, ostensibly for supplies, but mostly to hunt for a GSM signal. As we drove down the single track road with hairpin bend after hairpin bend, with unprotected 300m vertical drops, my girls were transfixed studying the signal bar on their phones whilst my knuckles were white gripping the wheel. The initial joy was suppressed after their phones didn't leap into life receiving hundreds of text messages from friends. My joy was also suppressed after I got a GPRS connection and discovered I had 50 emails and had only been away a few days, most of which had been a weekend. A fine welcome back to the real world. Is this what we were missing? Anyway if you get to read this it will be because I have descended again to civilisation to send and receive my emails. Or is it? Civilisation I mean!

Autumn Super Yacht Showtime

By the time you read this we will be all set for the big super yacht show of the autumn in Monaco between 24th and 27th September. The fabulous Monaco Yacht Show heralds the start of the Shows

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taking us up to Christmas, showcasing everything new in the world of super yachting. As per usual we will all be there on our stand QS42 in the Darse Sud air-conditioned tent. We will be showing all our new Core³ Technologies and specifically launching our Core³ Lifetime Service in conjunction with Telemar Yachting. This is, as the name suggests, a unique service for the lifetime of a yacht from Concept to Construction to Cruising, providing new build consultancy, design and installation services, pre and post launch services, refit, repair with communications and TV management for the life of the yacht.

Please contact us if you would like free tickets and also please join us on our stand for a drink or two. We will also be launching some secret new systems and services at the show.

The Cannes Show starts ten days before the Monaco Show, followed by the Genoa Show ten days afterwards. Tony and Alessio will also be at these Shows. In Cannes they will be based from the 360 Marine booth and in Genoa from the Telemar Yachting booth. Both these companies are our Ocean Wide Network (OWN) Partners.

Alan and I will then be at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show at the end of October based from the MTN and the Telemar Yachting booth.

Then in mid November we have our usual stand in the Super Yacht Pavilion at METS in conjunction with the Global Super Yacht Forum. More details on this will follow later.

As briefly mentioned, we will be showing our full new range of Core³ Technologies. These include Core³ Communications, Networks & IT, Navigation, Music & Movies and Security. We have joined with the best of breed partners, including Cisco, Microsoft, MTN, Sea Tel, Kaleidescape, Sperry and others, to provide the latest, best and most reliable systems available. We will also be showing the latest range of communications technology including 60cm VSAT using the latest new Sea Tel antenna and the new Iridium OpenPort. Unlike my experience here in the mountains, we will be launching a new GSM SeaCell service to enable GSM to work anywhere. At the same time you can catch up on our new Vodafone 3G service covering the whole of the western Med from Cadiz to Trieste, and launched earlier this summer by e3 Connect.

I look forward to the opportunity of meeting up with clients, friends and colleagues this autumn.

Roger Horner of E3 Systems

For further information on any of the above, please contact us.

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