



**e
Islander October 2011
Technology Update**

Didn't we have a lovely time the day we went to Monaco!

The dust has settled, we can now see the wood for the trees and the conclusion has to be that this year's Monaco Yacht Show was definitely a good one. Our team's feet didn't touch the ground throughout the full show period and beyond.



Was it worth it? Did we take many orders? Success at Monaco isn't just measured by orders taken but by a large number of factors, one of those being the opportunity to have meetings with people from all around the world, whether business to business or client meetings, which under normal circumstances would take you weeks, significant travel time and cost during the rest of the year.

The weather couldn't have been better. It was hot, sunny and without a breath of wind. There were 100 yachts in the Show, in the port, and at least 120 anchored off the harbour in millpond conditions allowing potential clients to be shown a whole raft of additional vessels to those in the show.

The launch of our eDSC Data Service Controller was better than we had even dared to hope for. We had one captain bring fellow captains back to our booth to show it to them himself as he was so impressed. The fact it was controlled by an iPad and iPhone captured the attention and then when people could see it was possible to simultaneously allow different groups of users to use different data connections, they were doubly impressed.



For the third year in succession, we had The Jetstream running live on our booth but this year with The Jetset box. The Jetstream allows you to watch your home TV anywhere in the world, as long as you have a good data connection. We were very pleased to take an order early on at the show this year.





Good business, good chat, good food and wine and the panache of Monaco makes for a potent mix for doing business. Alas another year is over.....

Mandatory ECDIS Generic training course from January 2012

Did you know it will be mandatory for masters and deck officers from Jan 2012 to have conducted generic ECDIS training in accordance with the Manila Amendments to STCW for all vessels that are **using ECDIS as the primary means of navigation** on Merchant and Fishing Vessels, **Commercially or Privately Operated Yachts** and Sail Training Vessels?



We will be hosting a DNV approved course at our Training facility in Portals in November. Scan the attached code for full information or contact diane@e3s.com.

Mobile, cell and smart phone news in brief:

iPhone 5 launch

By the time you read this, Apple will finally have ended speculation about the unveiling of its much-anticipated new iPhone model. They sent out invites on 27th September for an event on 4th October taking place at its HQ in Cupertino, California. However, while Apple's invitation offered an opportunity to "talk iPhone" it did not explicitly mention the new iPhone 5. The media speculation that Apple may unveil not just a new model, but several new versions of the current device (iPhone 4), possibly including one designed for the Chinese market or a new low-cost version, should be clear by the time we go to press.

However Samsung is reportedly planning to spoil the launch party for Apple's long-awaited new iPhone, by seeking injunctions to block shipments of the device into several markets.

According to a source at the *Financial Times*, Samsung is preparing patents-related legal action in Europe and in its home market of South Korea. "The market's speculation that Samsung is preparing a legal action to block sales of the iPhone 5 is largely true," said the source.

Action by Samsung to block the launch would mark a further escalation of its legal battle with Apple. The two firms are currently locked in about 20 legal disputes over patents in nine countries including the US, Australia, South Korea, Japan and the UK.

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Nokia axes 3,500 jobs

As part of its earlier announcement of 7,000 job cuts in April, handset giant Nokia is to slash a further 3,500 jobs as part of ongoing efforts to streamline its struggling devices business. Nokia described the move as an "operational alignment," which would allow it to "adjust its manufacturing capacity" and meet savings targets.

"We must take painful, yet necessary, steps to align our workforce and operations with our path forward," said CEO Stephen Elop.

Facebook hits 350 million users on 22nd September!

Facebook announced at the end of September that it now has 350 million "active" users currently accessing its site via mobile devices, representing almost half of its 800 million active user base. However, the social networking giant's mobile strategy took a backseat at its F8 conference in San Francisco, which the firm used to unveil a range of redesigns, plus new features designed to support multimedia services such as Spotify.

Microsoft introduce Windows 8 optimised for tablets

Windows 8, Microsoft's latest operating system optimised for tablets, has apps at its heart thanks to a radically different user interface and the introduction of an app store for the platform. The Windows 8 'Metro' touchscreen interface – revealed at the BUILD developer conference – is similar to Windows Phone 7 with live tiles providing quick access to apps and information on those currently in use. Windows 8 also ties different apps together, meaning pictures accessed via different apps – such as Facebook and Flickr – can be quickly selected and grouped together to be sent by email.

It was reported last week that Samsung is about to launch a Windows 8 tablet PC, suggesting the South Korean company is looking to diversify from Android following Apple's attempts to block its products based on the operating system.

Gartner: Android tablet challenge faltering

Gartner Research, my regular source of data statistics, has lowered its forecast for shipments of Android-based tablets by 28 percent from last quarter's projection, due to "high prices, weak user interface and limited tablet applications." It notes that the reduction would have been greater had it not been for the success of lower-end tablets in Asia, and the expectations around the launch of Amazon's new Android-based tablet. Gartner predicts that worldwide media tablet sales to end users are on pace to total 63.6 million units this year, a 261.4 percent increase from 2010 sales of 17.6 million.

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Is RIM (BlackBerry) in trouble?

Research in Motion's (RIM) Q2 2011 results were announced a couple of weeks ago, revealing a 59 percent fall in net income. This represents the third consecutive quarter of disappointing results as the company suffers from declining sales of its BlackBerry devices and BlackBerry PlayBook tablet computer. The company's market capitalisation is significantly affected, as the stock has shed more than half its value in 2011.

All in all, it's been a busy month of post-summer launches.

We wish everyone attending the Pinmar Golf Tournament a good time, and please don't hesitate to give all your money to the Ugly Sisters in their third and final grand flourish!

Roger Horner of e3 Systems

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