

NMEA MAKES CONNECTIONS ●

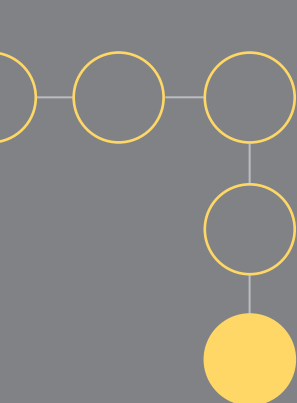


# A GUIDE TO BOATING ELECTRONICS

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW WHEN BUYING  
ELECTRONICS FOR YOUR BOAT

NATIONAL MARINE ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION





For 55 years the NMEA has created standards and professional installation guidelines for marine electronics to make boating safer and more fun.

## Creating Connections



### WHY ARE STANDARDS IMPORTANT FOR THE BOATER?

NMEA standards ensure that all electronics will interconnect physically and electrically and function as intended, without creating problems for other devices. Additionally, safe installation practices insure reliability, safety and reduce the risk of electrical fires.

### WHAT ARE THE STANDARDS?

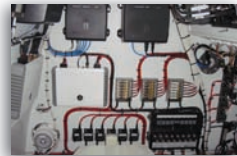
- **NMEA 2000®**

A marine standard for high-speed data exchange for most boat electronics. If the product doesn't say "NMEA 2000® certified" it is not compliant and may be unsafe.



- **NMEA 0183**

The marine standard for instrument serial data exchange.




- **NMEA 0400**

The marine electronics installation standard for technicians.

### NMEA CERTIFICATIONS

- **Master Dealer Certification**
- **Certified Marine Electronics Technician (CMET)**
- **Advanced Marine Electronics Installer (AMEI)**
- **Marine Electronics Installer (MEI)**





NMEA technical and training standards are used internationally for navigation, communications, entertainment, and systems integration.

## Promoting Excellence



# NMEA

## WHAT DOES THE NMEA MEAN TO YOU?

The NMEA comprises more than 600 companies representing 5,000 professionals in the marine electronics industry, including electronics manufacturers, dealers, distributors, boat builders, trade associates, and sales representatives.

Our members create technical standards and training standards that ensure top performance, coupled with reliable and robust installations for your marine electronics.

This attention to standards and reliability gives you more time to enjoy your boat, helps you understand how your electronics function, and ensures a safer boating experience for you and your family.

As electronics technology changes rapidly, the NMEA diligently updates the standards for the benefit of all boating consumers.

### MEMBERS OF THE NMEA INCLUDE:

- Electronics manufacturers
- Electronics dealers
- Electronics distributors
- Boat builders
- Marine trades
- Manufacturers' representatives



Cover Photo by Robert Glover  
[www.rgphoto.com](http://www.rgphoto.com)



# Benefits for Boaters

## LOOK FOR THE NMEA LOGO

When you see the NMEA logo, you know that a marine electronics manufacturer, dealer, or installer is serious about product quality and customer care.



NMEA members are committed to education, technical proficiency, and customer service. They are dedicated to providing excellence in manufacturing, customer service, and after-sales service for all boaters.

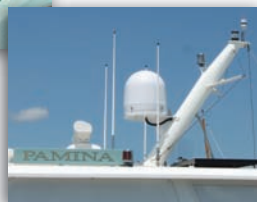


## ENJOY YOUR BOATING MORE WITH A PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION

- safer boating
- more reliable electronics
- instruments that work the way they should
- full functionality of your electronics



NMEA dealers and installers will educate you about your electronics and troubleshoot any problems.



# Assuring Quality



## BE AN INFORMED BUYER

Boating electronics are different from other consumer electronics. Marine electronics for your boat should be properly specified and purchased with the full cost of ownership in mind. Your resulting peace of mind and simpler warranty support are worth a lot — and will add to your fun on the water.



## HOW TO CHOOSE QUICK GUIDE TO BUYING MARINE ELECTRONICS

		Skilled Technical Advice	Installation Planning	Employs NMEA Qualified Installers	Direct After-sales Technical and Warranty Service	Price	Selection
Purchased from	NMEA Dealer	•••	••••	••••	••••	••	••
	NMEA Master Dealer	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	••	••
	Mass Retail Marine Store	••	••	•	••	••••	•••••
	Discount Internet	•	•	•	•	•••••	•••••
	Electronics already built-in on new boat	•	•	••	••	••	•
	Private Sale (used)	•	•	•	•	•••	•
<b>KEY</b>		Best •••••	Good ••••	Varies •••	Not usually available •		

## CHOOSE AN NMEA RETAILER

- the right choice for your investment, your safety, and your boating enjoyment

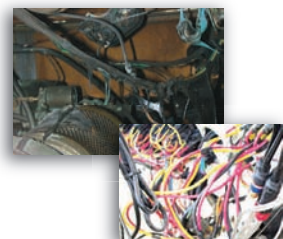


the right choice

## NMEA INSTALLATION



## INSTALLATIONS GONE WRONG



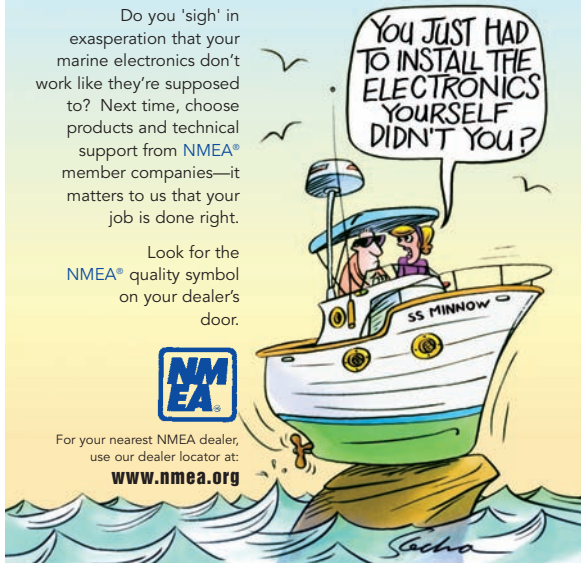
# Sighs Matter!

Do you 'sigh' in exasperation that your marine electronics don't work like they're supposed to? Next time, choose products and technical support from **NMEA**<sup>®</sup> member companies—it matters to us that your job is done right.

Look for the **NMEA**<sup>®</sup> quality symbol on your dealer's door.



For your nearest NMEA dealer, use our dealer locator at:  
[www.nmea.org](http://www.nmea.org)



**National Marine Electronics Association**

800.808.6632 • 410.975.9425 • [www.nmea.org](http://www.nmea.org)

The **NMEA** publishes standards for the best methods of interconnecting electronics and installing them on your boat. The NMEA also sets standards and provides training for the technicians who install and service your electronics. The standards cover equipment used for navigation, communications, entertainment, vessel control, and systems integration.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NMEA , CONTACT:

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+1-410-975-9425 email: [info@nmea.org](mailto:info@nmea.org)

[www.nmea.org](http://www.nmea.org)

To see the NMEA Marine Electronics Buyers' Guide and dealer finder go to:

[www.marineelectronicsjournal.com](http://www.marineelectronicsjournal.com)

