

## **Breakthrough Autopilot Reduces Shipping Fuel Consumption**

### ***New Green Technology Solution at CMA Shipping 2012 Reduces Maritime Shipping Costs and Carbon Emissions***

#### **For Immediate Release**

*Stamford, CT (CMA Shipping 2012 Conference) – March 20, 2012* – New sustainable technology solution offers low-cost retrofit to increase shipping fuel efficiency, commercial profits and navigation safety. The price of oil has soared to over \$100/barrel. Fuel is over 30% of commercial maritime shipping operating costs and although an efficient mode of transportation, contributes to the overall global carbon footprint.

AutoMATE Marine Systems announces the launch of website and new autopilot products to coincide with CMA Shipping 2012 Conference and Trade Show in Stamford CT. Ship owners looking to boost profits and reduce fuel consumption are offered a new sustainable shipping technology upgrade for existing vessels.

**DIGIPILOT** is an adaptive “smart autopilot add-on” that optimizes ship’s rudder movement providing significant reduction in fuel costs, voyage time and environmental impact.

**DIGIPILOT** benefits include:

- 1-3% fuel savings which increases profit 6-12%
- Shorter voyage time due to increased speed
- Lower CO2 Carbon emissions footprint

**DIGIPILOT** is primarily engineered for ships of 10,000 grt and larger in which adaptive steering control and very slow controlled turns can provide annual fuel savings of approximately \$250,000. The patent-pending algorithms work in all sea states including rough seas, and is easily installed as an auxiliary on existing ships having standard autopilots.

**DIGIPILOT** reduces rudder action by removing wave motion effects on control resulting in fuel saving and a slight increase of speed from less rudder and hull drag; experience indicates that this increase in fuel savings is on the order of 1 to 3%; featuring ease of integration, quick equipment payback- **DIGIPILOT** is your annuity of fuel savings with economic and environmental benefits. Twenty of these adaptive autopilot systems have been sold for use on a variety of ships.

**DIGIPILOT**, is an optional auto acquisition ARPA showing up to 40 surrounding vessels and/or buoys formerly displayed on a radar PPI, but is now shown directly on Navionics HD vector charts. This provides the long sought after “Holy Grail” of ship navigation; e.g. a single display Maneuvering Aid for complete surrounding awareness for both anti-collision and grounding prevention.

**DIGIPILOT** also has a unique Trial Maneuver sped up 30 times, which may be used to predict the effect of own ship changing course, speed and the time to execute

Each ship’s **DIGIPILOT** has its turning and stopping characteristics built equal to a naval architect’s most conservative characteristics. This feature is particularly useful when approaching land, and the watch officer (particularly one who doesn’t have enough experience for the “feel” of the ship), by quickly trying several course and speed options he can be aware of its wide arc during turning clearly showing the proper time to execute at his present speed when the maneuver will be well clear of grounding. The trial is similar to seeing a typical AIS time sequenced plot used for after-the-fact analysis of an incident, except this trial depiction shows when it is still hypothetical and a proper quantitatively evaluated maneuver can be executed safely to clear other vessels and charted obstructions.

**AutoMATE Marine Systems, LLC** was incorporated to resume production of its industry leading **DIGIPILOT**.

**AutoMATE™** products leverage 13 years and \$6 million of pioneering development cost from the founders’ previous company<sup>1</sup> on \$41M sales of bridge automation systems including **DIGIPILOT** the only “hands off “ fully automatic IMO Type Approved ARPA that was installed on 550 ships that experienced 60 million hours of at sea automatic operation. Patent(s)<sup>2</sup> on improved technology of sensors, algorithms and control solutions are included in the re-hosting of software for today’s faster marine computer/displays, add-on ARPAs and ECDIS.

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<sup>2</sup> **DIGIPILOT** - Fuel saving rudder control system with optional **DIGIPILOT** Collision Avoidance/Anti-Grounding Maneuvering Aid Patent Pending with US 61/632,221 Foreign License already Granted