

ELECTRONICS ROUNDUP 2017 PART ONE

The first half of our annual roundup of the best gadgets on the market

BY JEFF COTE



Simrad evo3

Every March we put together a list of products that have caught our eye, however, this issue always falls on the cusp of the Miami Boat Show (February 16 to 20, 2017) where all the manufacturers unveil the latest and greatest they have to offer. So this year we decided to put together a two-part electronics issue so we can highlight some tried and true favourites and then, next month, look at some brand new technologies. The main theme for 2017 is radar!

Recently, a few manufacturers started offering wifi radar, where the radar signal is transmitted wirelessly to a tablet or multi-function display. This year, many manufacturers came out with solid-state radars that provide low power consumption and instant-on capabilities without sacrificing target separation or even range. Furthermore, the new radars offer new user-friendly features such as automatically distinguishing between moving and stationary objects. Another interesting feature is emphasizing dangerous targets with a different colour to quickly highlight the risk to the operator.

Simrad evo3 with the SolarMAX HD Screen

The NSS evo3 comes in seven-inch, nine-inch, 12-inch and 16-inch models with an updated TouchSensible touchscreen, keypad and rotary control knob, all designed to be easier to operate when the boat is in motion. The new SolarMAX HD display technology provides high-definition visuals with extra-wide viewing angles, perfect for use in direct sunlight or low light. The big difference with this technology is advanced in-plane switching (IPS) with superior colour accuracy to enhance viewing of the Halo radar and the dual channel CHIRP sonar. The touchscreen even works when under constant sea spray and bad weather.

The display includes a 10 Hz internal GPS antenna

and fully integrates with both the autopilot and the Broadband 3G or 4G or Halo radar system. The dual channel CHIRP enables wide angle, ForwardScan, and deep view sonar images from the same transducer. The built-in wifi enables access to GoFree online, which delivers smartphone monitoring and tablet control. Simrad has also released their latest navigational interface called TripIntel that makes it easy to plan journeys based on fuel range, tide and detailed trip history.

B&G Zeus3

This is an easy-to-use chart-plotter navigation system designed specifically for sailors. Like the Simrad, it



B&G Zeus3

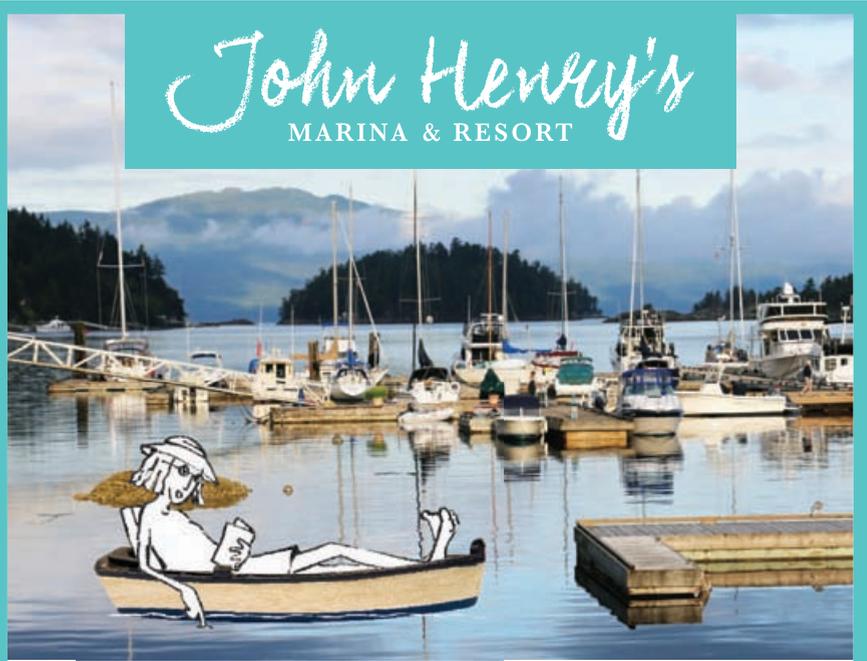
has excellent screen visibility with ultra-wide viewing angles in seven-inch, nine-inch, 12-inch and 16-inch models. Built-in wifi lets you access charts, weather information, software updates and online support directly from your display via any wifi hotspot. GoFree wifi also lets you mirror your Zeus3 screen on a compatible smartphone, and control your Zeus3 display from a compatible tablet, for an extra display that you can use anywhere on board. B&G's unique SailSteer feature combines all the essential sailing data, from heading, wind, laylines and tide to wind angle, target indicator and wind shift sectors. And, this is all available on a chart overlay.

Garmin Panoptix PS51-TH Forward Looking Sounder

This multibeam thru-hull transducer with forward-looking sonar helps you avoid running aground by displaying the ocean floor on your chartplotter. It displays up to 90 metres ahead



Garmin Panoptix



John Henry's
MARINA & RESORT

Pender Harbour's Full Service Marina

General Store, Oceanfront Cafe,
Fuel Dock & Great Accommodations

604.883.2336 | GARDEN BAY, PENDER HARBOUR BC
JOHNHENRYSRESORTMARINA.COM

OCEAN PACIFIC

MARINE STORE & BOATYARD

ANNUAL MARINE SHOW
Our BIGGEST Sale of the Year

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH, 2017



- ★ Meet the Experts
- ★ Buy the Product

- ★ 30+ Supplier Reps
- ★ Best Prices of the Year

THE NORTH ISLAND'S LARGEST MARINE STORE & BOATYARD
DISCOVERY HARBOUR SHOPPING CENTRE AND MARINA

Tel: 250-286-1011 | Toll Free: 1-800-663-2294 | Campbell River, BC
www.oceanpacificmarine.com

Peterson

CUSTOM WOODWORK

marine

Vancouver Island's representative
for FLEXITEEK yacht decking.

UPGRADE your YACHT

Proficient in all aspects of custom
woodwork projects: Yacht Interiors,
Exteriors, Decking & Cabinetry.



INTERIOR RENOVATION, ALTERATIONS,
LAMINATE & GRANITE COUNTERTOPS



FLOORING, PLY TEAK & HOLLY,
LONSEAL VINYL, CARPETS



DECKING IN TEAK,
FLEXITEEK OR PERMATEEK

Peterson Custom Woodwork Ltd

office: 778.351.3778

cell: 250.480.8004

111-2031 Malaview West
Sidney, BC V8L 5X6

PETERSONWOODWORK.COM

PETERSONCUSTOMWOOD@GMAIL.COM



Raymarine
Wi-Fish App



of your boat in real time
providing instant feedback to
give you more time to react.
This image data can be easily
shared with other chart-
plotters across the Garmin
Marine Network.

Raymarine Wi-Fish App

Transform your smartphone
into a CHIRP DownVision
sonar with Wi-Fish. Down-
load the free Wi-Fish app
and connect using standard
wifi and you will be stream-
ing real time sonar right to
your phone or tablet. Pause,
zoom and rewind right on
your smart device. Compat-
ible with the Dragonfly 4, 5
and 7 Pro, each waypoint is
displayed as a dynamic over-
lay on a real-time view of
the waterway in front of you.
Simply pan your smartphone
or tablet 360° across the hori-

zon and the precise positions
of your waypoints are shown
on the live camera feed. The
App contains a new view-
switcher, that allows you to
scroll through a number of
displays including CHIRP
DownVision, fish-targeting
sonar, augmented reality
view, map view and combi-
nation views.

Garmin Fantom Radar

Garmin's newest 18-inch
and 24-inch dome radars
come with 40 watts of power.
Garmin uses MotionScope
technology that utilizes the
Doppler effect to detect and
highlight moving targets to
avoid collisions, find flocks
of birds and track weather.
With its pulse compression
technology, Fantom provides
high resolution imaging
while maximizing energy on
targets to enhance detection
and identification of targets.
Pulse expansion can then
maximize target size to help
differentiate real targets
from noise.

The Fantom 18 features
a 5.2-degree beam width,



Garmin Fantom Radar

while the Phantom 24 offers a narrower 3.7-degree width offering a precise, high-resolution image. Both radomes offer excellent range performance from six metres to 48 miles. They include a dual range feature, so boaters have the ability to see both short- and long-range simultaneously, with an overlay on a chart for one or both ranges. This eliminates the need to toggle between views. The Phantom 18 and 24 feature low power consumption (less than 25 watts) and instant turn-on, so no warm-up time is needed.

Furuno DRS4D-NXT

A solid-state radar with pulse compression that packs the performance of an open array radar in a 24-inch radome. This is the first Furuno radar to

Furuno DRS4D-NXT



use their exclusive Target Analyzer technology, which causes targets approaching your vessel to automatically change colour and identify if they are hazardous. Furuno has also introduced RezBoost beam sharpening, equivalent to two-degree beam width allowing you to see detailed targets such as kayaks. For fishers it includes a bird mode, which allows you to track birds to help you find the best fishing grounds.

ICOM M605

This is a new Class D DSC radio, which has the



ICOM M605

PRO-TECH

Yacht Services Ltd.

SPRING IS THE TIME FOR NEW, CLEAN, SAFE LIFELINES AND HALYARDS. GIVE US A CALL.

Prepare for a safe season. With a comprehensive rigging inspection from the rigging professionals.

Wire, rod and composite rigging, huge rope selection, Genoa and spinnaker furling gear. Custom fabrication in stainless and aluminum.

1629 Columbia St., North Vancouver, BC
At Entrance to Lynnwood Marina

604.988.3052
sales@pro-tech.bc.ca










COME VISIT US AT OUR NEW LOCATION!

MARTIN MARINE

LOCATED AT 1176 WELCH STREET, NORTH VANCOUVER, BC
604-985-0911 | Toll Free 1-866-985-0911 | info@martinmarine.ca



SmartFind S20 AIS MOB



Garmin GHP Compact Reactor

capability of connecting up to three command stations, with an intercom function available between the main radio and controllers. The colour LCD provides a nearly 180° viewing angle. The 4.3-inch-wide display has high-resolution characters and function icons. The night mode screen provides the optimal viewing brightness for comfortable operation in the dark. The M605 has an integrated AIS receiver that can show real-time AIS vessel traffic information on the display. The AIS combo screen enables you to monitor the AIS plotter during basic operation and you can directly call a selected AIS target from the AIS screen using an individual DSC call. The last call voice recording function automatically saves up to two minutes of an incoming call. It is also NMEA0183 LS & HS and NMEA2000 compatible.

SmartFind S20 AIS MOB

This personal locator beacon is designed to be fitted to a lifejacket and activated in the event of a person overboard situation. After the lifejacket is inflated, simply pull the orange locking tab downward to deploy the antenna and activate the high precision GPS. The S20 will transmit position information and a serialised identity number back to your boat's onboard plotter. It will transmit continuously for a minimum of 24 hours and has a seven-year battery storage life. The flashing LED indicator light also makes you easier to spot at night. There is also an automatic deployment option that can be professionally fitted to a number of compatible lifejackets that causes the S20 to activate when the lifejacket is inflated.

AUTOPILOTS There are two new autopilots this year, one



Renew and Refresh with Vinyl Boat Wrapping



- Low cost alternate to marine paint
- Exterior & Interior vinyl wrapping
- Wide range of colours & textures

604-355-3811 • Info@WrapBoats.ca



from Simrad and the other from Garmin. These new systems operate like cruise control, using compass settings, waypoints, wind and a route while integrating with your chartplotter.

Garmin GHP Compact Reactor

This is the ideal entry-level autopilot system designed for single engine outboard boats under 10 metres. Offered in three different corepacks, this autopilot lets you configure your autopilot setup depending on the features you need and how much you want to spend. Buy the starter pack, add a GHC 20 marine autopilot control unit, or add both a GHC 20 and Shadow Drive. The Shadow Drive system automatically disengages the autopilot if the helm is turned, giving you the freedom to manoeuvre the boat. The autopilot automatically re-engages when you hold a

steady course. And, this autopilot actually reacts to the sea to hold your course, even when the boat is pitching and rolling.

Simrad AP44 Autopilot Controller

This system is designed for hydraulic-steered outboard and stern drive boats up to 10 metres. It features an autopilot controller with a 4.1-inch colour display, an RPU-80 hydraulic steering pump, an autopilot computer, a precision-9 solid-state compass plus all the necessary NMEA 2000 cables and connectors. It has an easy setup with automatic tuning and compass calibration and the virtual rudder feedback eliminates the need to install a mechanical rudder feedback unit. The AP44 offers no-drift-steering, which holds your course against wind and tide, however the GPS receiver is sold separately. ▶



Simrad AP44 Autopilot Controller



portsidney.com

Moor, to explore.

Come and visit the new Port Sidney marina, located at the best entrance to Beacon Ave. The marina now offers special group bookings, custom docks with a large covered tent, showers and laundry and wifi. So whether you stay for a night or a month it's the perfect location to Moor, and explore Sidney and the surrounding Gulf Islands.

MILL BAY MARINE GROUP

mbmg.ca

**Bridgemans
Bistro**
Mill Bay BC

**Mill Bay
Marina**
Mill Bay BC

**Pacific
Gateway
Marina**
Port Renfrew BC

**Port
Browning
Marina**
Pender Island BC

**MK Bay
Marina**
Kitimat BC





Shakespeare SuperHALO



FLIR Ax8

Shakespeare SuperHALO

We wrote about this last month in our article on staying connected, but it bears repeating. It is a very popular product for boaters who want to boost an existing cell signal and broadcast cell within a boat for five to 10 simultaneous users. It is the first marine-grade five-band cell phone booster, with 2G/3G/4G capability and a voice and data antenna. The kit ships with an indoor and outdoor antenna, cell booster and cabling which enables you to optimize cellular coverage on your boat where reception may be weak due to your distance from a cell tower or mountainous terrain. Designed with boaters in mind, the unit will go dormant when not in use to save power.

CAMERAS We are installing more and more cameras on boats, not only for navigation but also for monitoring and security.

FLIR Ax8

This camera combines a thermal and visual camera in one very small package. The AX8 provides continuous temperature monitoring and alarming for critical electrical and mechanical equipment such as engines, exhaust manifolds and shaft bearings. This camera integrates with the Raymarine LightHouse II multifunction displays and sends audible and visual alerts when the temperature rises above a preset. You can keep a watchful eye on equipment, spot problems before they happen and evaluate ongoing temperature trends without going in the engine room.

NEST CAMERA

Using your boat or marina wifi, you can monitor your boat systems using your smartphone and the Nest App. The camera provides

Trade your boat for a tax credit & help SALTS transform lives.

Proceeds from the sale of donated vessels like the ones pictured below help make it possible for young people from all walks of life to sail aboard our tall ships



S·A·L·T·S·
SAIL AND LIFE TRAINING SOCIETY



When you donate your boat, you'll receive a tax credit for the fair market value of your vessel. The process is fast, proven and simple.



Call or email us today!
1.888.383.6811 | donations@salts.ca
www.salts.ca



super clear 1080p HD video and comes with advanced night vision and 8X digital zoom. It also has a microphone and speaker, which is great if your technician is on-board and you can't be there. The Nest Cam includes Nest Aware with video history that saves 10 days of continuous footage in the cloud. If you need more coverage, there is a subscription that provides you with a cloud recording service that allows you to rewind up to 30 days.

Fusion StereoActive

We included this in our December Gadget Gift List and it continues to be extremely popular. Combined with the Fusion Active Safe, this system uses the Fusion puck system to attach to almost any surface on a kayak, paddleboard, dinghy or boat. It is IPx7 rated, water resistant and floats. The stereo uses the

FUSION-Link wireless control and can be controlled with your Garmin smartwatch. The buttons on the top of the stereo are designed so you can control the volume or take a phone call with the tap of a paddle. It has a dual 2.5-inch, 40 Watt custom-designed directional speaker system,

bluetooth audio streaming, AM/FM radio tuner and weather band radio.

* * *

We are looking forward to the manufacturers' announcements at the Miami Boat Show and will report back in next month's issue. 



Fusion StereoActive

- POWER AND SAIL HAUL OUTS UP TO 65' OR 40 TONS
- OUTDOOR BOAT STORAGE / INDOOR BOAT STORAGE
- BOAT LAUNCH RAMP WITH NO TIDAL RESTRICTIONS
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS ON SITE
- PRESSURE WASHING
- TRAILER LAUNCHING AND STORAGE
- WORK AREAS WITH POWER AND WATER
- COVERED WORK AREAS
- OIL AND WASTE RECYCLING
- PUMP OUT STATION
- SHRINK-WRAPPING

WWW.LIONSGATEMARINA.COM

604-985-5468 | 1331 MCKEEN AVENUE, NORTH VANCOUVER, BC, V7P 3H9