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NEWS

For Immediate Release

September 18, 2007

Blue Sea Systems Introduces RCBOs to Provide Ground Fault Protection

Blue Sea Systems makes available a practical way to provide full-boat ground fault protection. Residual Current Circuit Breakers (RCBO) combine the overcurrent tripping characteristics of a normal circuit breaker with ground fault protection. RCBOs immediately switch electricity off when a ground fault is detected. Although they are new to the US market, they are commonly used in Europe. A ground fault occurs when current leaks from circuitry to the boat's ground and possibly to the surrounding water through faulty insulation, improper wiring, or failing appliance and devices.

RCBOs provide protection against hazards that ordinary circuit breakers do not:

- Electrically induced drownings caused by AC ground faults that cause current leakage from a boat into the surrounding waters.
- Lower level ground faults that do not trip ordinary circuit breakers, but can lead to fires and shock hazards for boat occupants.

Recent investigations indicate that numerous drowning accidents in marinas have been caused by ground faults resulting in current leakage from metal fittings on boats into the surrounding water. An electrically induced drowning results from loss of muscle control caused by electrical current in the water.

RCBOs are suitable for:

- AC Branch ground fault protection—panel-mounted, single-circuit, 5mA solution.
- AC Main ground fault protection—panel mounted, 30mA protection for a boat's entire AC electrical system.

Blue Sea Systems, founded in 1992, is committed to creating innovative high quality marine electrical products to improve the safety, simplicity, and reliability of boating. Blue Sea Systems employees are active boaters who apply their passion to designing, developing, and building products that enhance the experience of boaters.

For additional information, please visit www.blueseasystems.com, or contact Blue Sea Systems at 800 222-7617.