Inmarsat Fleet F33

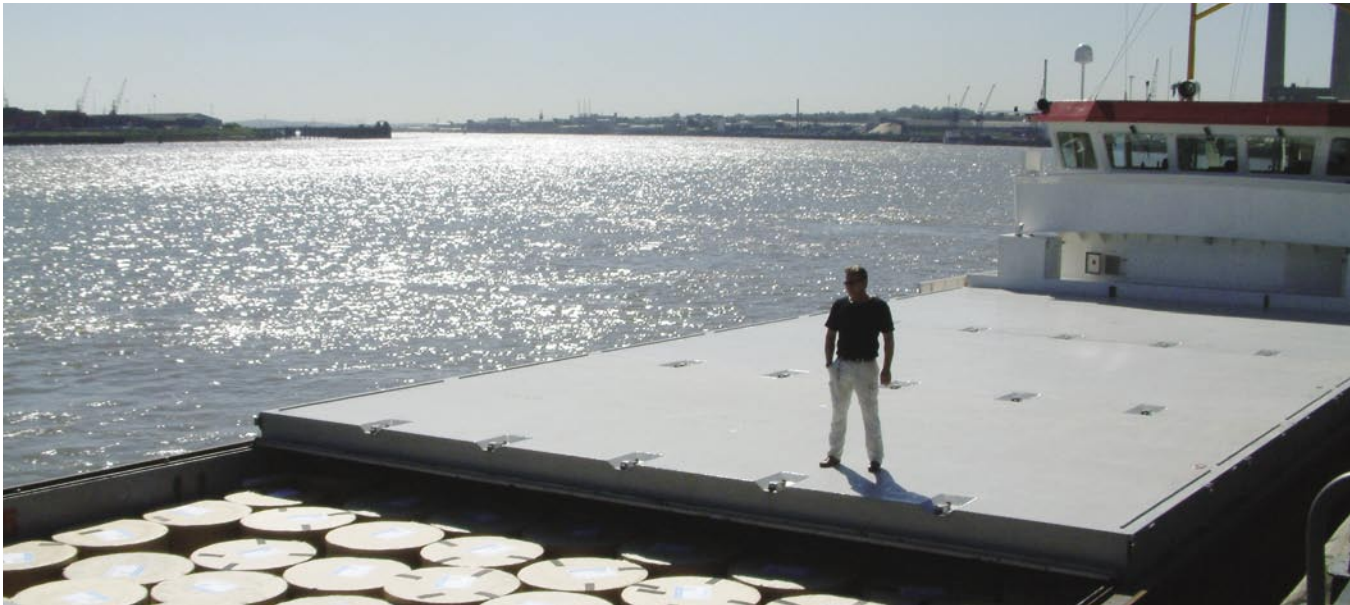fleet | inmarsat

Fleet F33 offers a single, integrated voice and data communications solution that delivers versatility and choice

Inmarsat is the pre-eminent provider of global* mobile communications, with over 25 years' experience in the maritime sector. The company is also renowned for its dependable network, consistently delivering reliability levels of 99.99 per cent as part of its maritime safety obligations.

The increasing sophistication of the maritime community demands communications access at all times for business, social and leisure requirements. To meet ever-growing needs for data connectivity at sea, Inmarsat's advanced Fleet family of services (Fleet F77, Fleet F55 and Fleet F33) offers comprehensive data and voice solutions for all vessel sizes.

Compact single solution
Fleet F33 offers a single, integrated voice and data communications solution that delivers versatility and choice. This ensures that you and your vessel are no longer isolated while at sea, whatever your needs.

Fleet F33's highly compact antenna and below deck unit package is designed for simple installation onboard a wide range of smaller vessels, for both newbuild and retrofit applications. This makes the system particularly suitable for motor and sailing yachts, fishing vessels, short sea and coastal merchant ships, workboats and coastal patrol craft.

Voice

Fleet F33 provides digital voice communications on a virtual global basis* as standard through a 4.8kbps voice channel. SIM and pre-paid calling options are available to offer increased flexibility for social and crew calling and/or multiple users.

Call waiting is also available as an option to notify users of the presence of an incoming voice, fax or data call while they are conducting an MPDS session. When the call-waiting alert is received, the user will have the choice of whether to accept the incoming call or not. This ensures that users do not miss a call, allowing them to remain logged on for prolonged periods.

Fax

Fleet F33 also provides 9.6kbps Group 3 fax for vessel-to-shore, shore-to-vessel and vessel-to-vessel applications. In addition, Fleet F33 terminals feature a range of industry standard connections and interfaces for maximum hardware compatibility.

Data

Fleet F33 meets increasing demands for data communications onboard smaller vessels through a 9.6kbps circuit-switched data channel.

Compatible with Internet Protocol (IP), this channel is available in the Inmarsat spot beams**. It offers effective throughput of up to 40kbps using integrated V.42bis and V.44 compression, enabling users to send and receive e-mails, access the Internet and private networks, transfer data files and digital images, as well as run videoconferencing.

Cost effective, always on
While Fleet F33's dial-up channel charges are based on the time connected, users can also choose Inmarsat's unique Mobile Packet Data Service (MPDS). This packet-based option charges only for the amount of data sent and received, not the time spent online, making MPDS highly cost-effective and enabling 'always on' Internet or corporate/private network access.

Fleet F33 MPDS operates at variable speeds depending on whether data is being uploaded or downloaded. In the asymmetric mode, transfer rates of up to 64kbps are possible in the download direction, while uploads rates of up to 28kbps are enabled.

Fleet F33 is an ideal solution to link those onboard with business colleagues, family and friends, as well as increase vessel management and operational efficiency

This difference in speed allows for the fact that most Internet query commands contain less data than most response commands.

For enhanced data security, the MPDS channel supports anti-virus software and firewalls, as well as the majority of Virtual Private Network (VPN) protocols.

Business or pleasure

Inmarsat Fleet F33 is an ideal solution to link those onboard with business colleagues, family and friends, as well as increase vessel management and operational efficiency.

E-mail and messaging: The service provides reliable, quick, cost-effective and easy e-mailing, with the choice of virtual instant access with the 'always on' capability of MPDS. In addition, MPDS supports instant and universal messaging options.

Secure online access: Internet and corporate/private network access is now taken as an everyday requirement. Fleet F33's MPDS channel extends this capability to smaller vessels at sea for operational needs, as well as office, management and e-commerce applications.

Digital video and images: Fleet F33 ensures that commercial and leisure vessels can meet increasing business requirements for the immediate transmission of still and moving images. This facility also provides enhanced telemedicine, as well as a greatly improved capability to respond to equipment breakdowns or vessel damage.

Crew communications: Fleet F33 supports crew calling such as pre-paid solutions that enable users to take advantage of discounted voice calling rates. Other interfaces can provide crew with e-mail, SMS and voicemail facilities.

Key markets

As organizations and individuals increasingly use data and web-based technology, high-speed, cost-effective and reliable communications are critical to business and operational success. Fleet F33 is an ideal solution to this for all maritime markets.

Leisure: With Fleet F33, owners and operators of yachts, as well as passengers, guests and crew, can utilize the system's voice, e-mail, Internet or fax connections, allowing them to keep in contact at all times. This could mean that the passenger or guest can remain onboard for longer. It also improves safety and comfort, as the skipper can download the latest accurate weather forecasts and chart updates.

Merchant: Owners and managers of short sea and coastal merchant ships have previously relied on radio communications and the limited coastal coverage of GSM communications. Now they can take advantage of Fleet F33's data channels for connectivity at all times with F33's global* voice channel for enhanced control, efficiency and safety.

The service facilitates technical ship management and crewing software applications, corporate network access, e-procurement, electronic chart updates and notices to mariners, online weather downloads as well as vessel telemetry and monitoring applications. In addition, digital images can be used to speed equipment/damage repairs and for telemedicine. Fleet F33 also enables social crew calling.

Fishing: Fleet F33 enables targeted fishing and improves safety through the delivery of accurate oceanographic and weather data. Online access to the latest fish market prices lets skippers or fishing managers choose where and when to land a catch for maximized profits, or to send digital images of catches to markets.

Government: Fleet F33 offers secure global* voice and real-time data communications within the Inmarsat spot beams, which greatly aids increased coastal zone security and monitoring for patrol, customs and coastguard vessels. Primary applications include digital image and video transfer, as well as secure access to online databases.

Workboats: Vessels such as coastal survey craft, dredgers, tugs, emergency rescue craft and support vessels can take advantage of Fleet F33's versatility to improve operational efficiency and share data over a wider area. It also lets them access the latest weather information, enabling them to work longer and safer.

Service flexibility

Because Fleet F33 is IP compatible, it supports an extensive range of commercial off-the-shelf software, as well as specialized maritime and business applications. Fleet F33 also ensures cost-effective communications through MPDS.

MPDS is highly suitable for interactive, short-burst data and web-based applications applications, such as:

- e-mail
- Internet and private network access
- instant messaging
- universal messaging, including SMS
- office/management software applications
- 'thin client' applications
- electronic chart downloads
- real-time online weather/ oceanographic information
- vessel telemetry, SCADA and technical support applications
- telemedicine

Summary

Inmarsat Fleet F33 delivers reliable high-speed data and fax links in the Inmarsat spot beams, as well as global* voice. This provides an integrated and compact communications solution for smaller vessels that were previously restricted in their capabilities by the size and cost of terminal hardware.

Designed to operate with Inmarsat's latest generation Inmarsat-4 satellites, Fleet F33 is a long term solution for the needs of all maritime markets including smaller merchant ships, government vessels, workboats, yachts and fishing boats.

*Polar restrictions apply

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