



SWIFTSURE
MEDIA RELEASE

Hosted by the Royal Victoria Yacht Club
3475 Ripon Road
Victoria, BC V8R 6H1
Canada

Tel: (250) 592-9098
Fax: (250) 370-2286
Email: swiftsure.info@rvyc.bc.ca
Web: www.swiftsure.org

Well-Known Provider to Supply Swiftsure Yachts with Transponders

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for immediate release

Victoria, BC – The annual Swiftsure International Yacht Race, now in its 65th year, will once again be deploying transponders to track yachts competing in the Juan de Fuca Strait. This year, however, the Steering Committee has chosen a well-established commercial provider, FlagShip Integration Services Inc. (FIS) of Rolling Meadows, IL to supply transponders at no cost to the race participants.

A transponder is a self-contained, light-weight device that uses satellite technology to continuously track yacht location, and transmit data to race headquarters. FIS uses Orbcomm, which has 29 low-earth orbiting satellites and accompanying ground infrastructure to provide two-way data communication, ensuring no dead zones along the race course.

FIS President Kim Flagstad and her crew will travel to Victoria to distribute and install the transponders personally, ensuring each transponder is correctly functioning before the race start at 10am on May 24th. During 2007, Kim and her staff have also provided similar services for the TransPac, Marblehead to Halifax, and Newport to Ensenada Yacht Races, among several others. A full roster of races covered by FIS can be seen at www.fistracking.com.

Yachts registered in the Swiftsure Lightship Classic, and Cape Flattery races will receive transponders. Each transponder will provide information on position, course and speed and will relay this information to the Swiftsure website (www.swiftsure.org) in near real-time. The Swiftsure Technology Committee has been very busy over the past few months testing the new devices to ensure a smooth deployment in time for the race.

The Swiftsure International Yacht Race has, for over 10 years, had the largest deployment of transponders in the Pacific Northwest.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Swiftsure Office
Royal Victoria Yacht Club
(250) 592-9098