



Maritime SAR addendum

APPLICATION NOTES

Subject: **Signalling and Location Marking from a Capsized Vessel.
Acoustic**

Introduction:

This note deals with a particular aspect of the recent Vendee Globe rescue in which ASW Sonar Buoys were dropped to determine the presence of a survivor inside his capsized yacht. Without sighting the yachtsman there were doubts as to whether the rescue effort was to be continued, fortunately it was.

Principle:

A feature of the SEE - BLITZ design is the sound of the charge circuit and strobe trigger, both are intended to reassure a blinded user of correct operation. This sound is effectively transmitted through the water as divers have observed when using the strobe as a line marker.

Implementation:

The method of deploying a SEE - BLITZ from a capsized hull has been described in the 'Visual' application note and no additional steps are required to generate the acoustic signal, it is an integral part of the light's operation.

Summary:

The sound output of the SEE - BLITZ is very characteristic and cannot be mistaken for noises made by equipment floating inside the boat. Even after the batteries cannot fire the strobe the frequency ramping up continues giving the unit an unmistakable acoustic signature.

**The SEE - BLITZ is standard equipment in all ASRK packs dropped
to survivors.**