

ANT's Collaboration with QinetiQ, MYS 09



ANT also used the show to inform the Super yacht fraternity about an exciting and groundbreaking collaboration with QinetiQ, a leading international provider of technology-based services and solutions to the defence and security related markets. QinetiQ and ANT demonstrated Blue Force Tracking, an Iridium satellite based asset tracking system. The BUSHMAN™ solution uses QinetiQ's proven technology to provide continuous contact, via Iridium, with multiple assets anywhere in the world. A small communicator is attached to the asset and a hi-tech map-based user interface gives position reports on-demand. An integrated picture of the tracked assets can be received directly on the bridge or on a handheld device. The QinetiQ system has flexible web-based or satellite-based functionality, and also provides secure feeds into corporate networks, supporting a number of data formats and mapping applications, including Google Earth. Users can decide the extent to which they wish to interact with the system, safe in the knowledge that the BUSHMAN™ system is equipped with alarm functionality and will send alerts directly to a PC or handheld PDA device, in the event of an emergency.



QinetiQ found the show to be particularly encouraging as many different stakeholders in the Super yacht market were interested in the flexible capabilities of its tracking solution. Yacht design consultants, security specialists, yacht brokers, captains and crew could see the advantages the system offers over existing tracking solutions for tracking all assets (tenders, jet skis, helicopters, cars, individuals) associated with a Super yacht.

- **Chris Walker, QinetiQ's Business Development Manager**, stated, "our impression of the show was that people were genuinely interested in new technology, which offers greater capabilities than existing systems and can be provided as part of an integrated package with the existing navigation and integrated bridge system solutions."

- **Soheila Mesri, a principal business consultant and company secretariat & legal** with QinetiQ who has been closely involved with establishing the collaboration agreement between ANT and QinetiQ said, "working with ANT, a well established provider of quality integrated solutions to the Super yacht market, has encouraged QinetiQ that there is value to be gained through a future partnership in this market developing and deploying a variety of technologies, with tracking solutions being the initial focus."