

Sperry Marine

Product Group: Commercial Radar
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MIB No. 059
24th June 2004

Marketing Information Bulletin

BRIDGEMASTER E 250 AND 180 DESKTOP RADARS. TRANSITION TO FLAT PANEL TECHNOLOGY.

With the BridgeMaster **E**, Sperry Marine has been at the forefront of introducing Type Approved flat panel radars into the marine market.

As part of our commitment towards continuous product improvement, and delivering improved value to our customers, Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine are pleased to announce two new flat panel displays for the BridgeMaster **E** radar:

- ❑ New 180 Desktop Flat Panel
- ❑ New 250 Desktop Flat Panel

and most importantly for the same prices as our CRT systems.

Key Features

- ❑ Clear bright radar picture
- ❑ Exceptional dimming range for night time bridge operation
- ❑ Same mode of operation to the current BridgeMaster **E**
- ❑ VDR / Secondary RGB interface fitted as standard
- ❑ Robust construction



Figure 0. New 250 Flat Panel desktop radar displays

Description

The two new Radars retain the features and benefits present in the current BridgeMaster 180 and 250 ranges and use the same proven BridgeMaster **E** technology

From a navigators perspective, the user interface and mode of operation are identical to the existing BridgeMaster **E**. Similarly, the displays come in the full range of configurations of EPA, ATA and ARPA and can be fitted with the optional radar control panel which provides dedicated controls for the most frequently used radar functions.

The images below and overleaf show the current 180 and 250 tabletop CRT versions and their new replacement flat panel versions.

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Figure 2. The current CRT based 180 and new flat panel based 180 radar displays.

Type Approval

The new flat panel version of the BridgeMaster **E** 180 and 250 are fully Type Approved and wheelmarked. Copies of the Type Approval certificates are available on the Sperry Marine public web site www.sperry-marine.com.

Availability

The new BridgeMaster **E** 250 systems are available as of today for ordering and shipment.

The new BridgeMaster **E** 180 systems are available to order as of today with shipments commencing 16th July 2004.

The CRT Versions will be available for a short time while stocks last.

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Figure 3. Current CRT version and new flat panel version of the 250 Radar Display (shown fitted with the optional dedicated radar control panel).

Pricing and ordering

Pages 25 through 39 of the current BridgeMaster *E* Price book (Issue 6) contain pricing of CRT based desktop 180 and 250 radars. The list prices of the new flat panel versions of these radars are the same price as the CRT based systems.

When ordering, simply quote the following factory fitted option:

Part No.	Description	Pricing
FF 60	250 Desktop Radar- Flat Screen Option	No charge
FF 61	180 Desktop Radar - Flat Screen Option	No charge

As an additional benefit, the above option comes with a VDR interface / RGB & Sync. output fitted as standard at no additional cost.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q) Are the new flat panel desktop versions of the 180 and 250 BridgeMaster E type approved?

A) Yes. The system is fully Type Approved in all the usual configurations of S Band, X Band, up-mast / down-mast transceiver configurations and for both standard and high-speed craft.

Q) What are the technical details of the new flat panel displays?

A) Both units are based round flat panel LCD (Liquid Crystal) TFT displays. The 250 incorporates a 19" LCD running at 1280 x 1024 line rate and the 180 is a 15" LCD running at 1024 x 768 line standard. Full details are available within our technical specifications documents.

Q: Are the footprint and installation requirements for the new flat panel displays the same for the older CRT based displays?

A: The footprint of the 180 display is identical to the CRT version. The footprint of the 250 is smaller with the new flat panel technology. Installation and outline drawings in pdf and Autocad formats are available on request.

Electrical connections are the same as for the CRT versions.

Q) Will I be able to upgrade my existing CRT based 180 and 250 BridgeMaster E to this flat panel version?

Yes. We recognise that customers with existing desktop 180 and 250 BridgeMaster E 340 systems may wish to upgrade their existing installations from CRT to flat panel. Full details of a field upgrade kit will be available during in August.

Q: Will I still be able to buy the CRT based desktop systems?

A: No. The CRT based systems are being discontinued. There may a short period of continued availability of the CRT version whilst stocks last.

Q: I have current and future requirements for BridgeMaster 180 and 250 desktop systems that must be the CRT type. What can be done?

A: Let us know if you have any forward requirements for CRT based systems and we will make our best endeavours to retain systems for your specific requirement. We anticipate that most customers will readily move to the flat panel version, particularly as there are no significant installation or operational differences.

Q: Will the CRT based 250 and 180 continue to be supported.

A: Yes. It is our policy to support our radar products for a period of at least 10 years from the date of last manufacture. Currently we plan to support the BridgeMaster E 250 and 180 CRT's until at least December 2014.

In addition, we always use best endeavours to support the products after this ten-year period and experience has shown that we have generally supported our radar products well in excess of this period.

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Q: *What is the position with the 250 kit format radar systems?*

A: There is no change to the pricing or availability of kit format 250 systems.

Q: *Is there a Mu metal magnetic shield option for the new flat panel display?*

A: No. With flat panel technology there is no need for shielding from the Earth's magnetic field. The Earth's magnetic field can have a noticeable effect upon colour CRT displays. The effects are countered by magnetic shields, made usually of Silicon Iron or, for better shielding, Mu Metal and the use of degaussing coils. The flat panel technology used in the BridgeMaster is based upon LCD's (Liquid Crystal Displays) which are unaffected by the Earth's magnetic field and so the shielding and countermeasures are simply not required.