



SMM 2000-6000

ARGOS SUB-SURFACE MOORING BEACON



Sub-surface **M**ooring **M**onitoring remotely monitors underwater moorings that may accidentally rise to the surface. If the mooring breaks, the platform floats to the surface and starts transmitting.

CLS Service Argos has developed a special service for monitoring the status of the moorings. Normally a submerged Platform Transmitter Terminal (PTT) remains silent and undetected by the Argos satellites. Should the mooring break loose however, and the PTT rise to within a few metres of the surface, it will begin to transmit. An alarm state is set upon reception of the signal by an orbiting satellite and recognition and processing at a ground centre. A warning that the mooring line has surfaced, with its position, will be sent to the user by facsimile. Thereafter each satellite pass will result in another location. This will continue until cancelled by the user.

Features:

- Titanium housing
- Up to 2 years mooring life
- Up to 6 months transmission life
- Powered by 5 or 10 D-type Lithium batteries respectively
- CEIS UHF 88 platform terminal transmitter
- Water depth up to 2000 and 6000 metres respectively
- Trigger threshold 30 metres
- Double O-ring seals
- Antenna protected by Delrin cage
- Triggered by pressure switch

Specifications:

Mooring depth 2000 or 6000 m
Pressure switch threshold 25-35 m
Dimensions (l x d) 742 x 89 mm
Mass without batteries 6.7 kg
Displacement 3.1 dm³

Power supply (without option X) 5 or 10 pcs.
Lithium D cells resp.
Mooring life up to 2 years
Transmission life 3 or 6 months resp.

How SMM works:

What happens if the mooring line of a subsurface mooring inadvertently breaks? Normally the equipment and, more importantly, the data are lost. Ship and work time are also wasted because it is not until recovery is attempted that it is discovered that the mooring has broken loose. But things have been changing. The concept of dedicated satellite-based subsurface mooring monitoring is taking shape at CLS Argos - this service and the hardware required are available now!

A reliable system:

Argos is two satellites in orbit, two processing centres offering full redundancy, 2500 beacons located every day, megabytes of data processed around the clock. And Argos has been fully operational for twenty years.

Worldwide operation:

The Argos satellites cover the entire surface of the earth, the system having capabilities to locate platforms to within 350 m. Ideal for active monitoring of equipment moored close to the coast or offshore.

Active monitoring:

The SMM 2000 and 6000 subsurface mooring monitoring beacon goes down with the mooring up to its maximum depth with the PTT held off by a pressure switch. If the mooring line should break, or when the mooring is being recovered, the PTT will switch on as it approaches the surface. In the first case, the beacon will transmit for the lifetime of the batteries (typically 3 months with 5 lithium batteries) in the second, the beacon is manually switched off after recovery.

The signal is received by the orbiting Argos satellites and location of the PTT determined at the processing centre. A warning message is sent at once by facsimile, or any other pre-arranged communication channel. Thereafter, the PTT is re-located on every satellite pass and a message sent giving its updated position, or this can be made available in a mailbox at the processing centre.

Underwater unit:

During development, the long term aspect of mooring was born in mind resulting in the use of titanium for the housing because this material suffers absolutely no corrosion in seawater, even around the sealing areas. Double O-ring seals are used throughout.

Rapid Payback:

With hours of sea search time saved, Argos subsurface mooring monitoring will pay for itself the first time a mooring breaks loose.

Options:

Option X switch mode power supply for extended battery range from NC batteries via Alkaline to Lithium batteries. The X-option may be installed in all systems retrospectively.

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