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**AIS Transponder Comparison Guide**

Product	AIS type	NMEA 0183	NMEA 2000	USB	Wi-Fi	SAT-AIS / Msg 27	VDR	VHF antenna splitter	GPS antenna bundled	NMEA multiplexing	Integrated screen	IP rating	Warranty	Price
<a href="#">AMEC CAMINO-108 Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	SD card	Extra cost	Portable antenna	Some	✗	IPX2	2 year	
<a href="#">AMEC CAMINO-108S Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Integrated	Portable antenna	Some	✗	IPX2	2 year	
<a href="#">AMEC WideLink B600 Class B SOTDMA AIS Transponder</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	SD card	Extra cost	Portable antenna	✓	✗	IP67	2 year	
<a href="#">AMEC WideLink B600W Class B SOTDMA AIS Transponder</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	SD card	Extra cost	Portable antenna	✓	✗	IP67	2 year	
<a href="#">AMEC CAMINO-701 Class A AIS Transponder</a>	Class A (12.5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	N/A	Marine-grade	✓	Color	IP24	2 year	
<a href="#">Comar T200B Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Extra cost	Extra cost	✗	✗	IP40	1 year	
<a href="#">Comar T200B-S Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Integrated	Extra cost	✗	✗	IP40	1 year	
<a href="#">em-trak A200 Class A AIS Transponder</a>	Class A (12.5 watt)	✓	✓	Opt.	✓	✓	SD card	N/A	Marine-grade	✗	Color	IP67	3 year	
<a href="#">em-trak B300 Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Extra cost	Internal	Heading	✗	IP67	3 year	
<a href="#">em-trak B350 Class B SOTDMA AIS Transponder</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	Extra cost	Internal	Heading	✗	IP67	3 year	
<a href="#">em-trak B360 Class B SOTDMA AIS Transponder</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	Extra cost	Internal	Heading	✗	IP67	3 year	
<a href="#">em-trak B400 Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	Opt.	✓	✓	SD card	Extra cost	Marine-grade	Heading	Color	IP67	3 year	
<a href="#">em-trak Class B AIS Sailor Extreme Package (B300 + S300)</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Bundled	Internal	Heading	✗	IP67	3 year	
<a href="#">Garmin AIS 800 Class B Transponder</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	Integrated	Marine-grade	✗	✗	IPX7	1 year	
<a href="#">Icom MA-500TR Class B AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Extra cost	Marine-grade	✗	Mono	IPX7	1 year	
<a href="#">SI-TEX MDA-5 SOTDMA Class B AIS Transceiver w/Splitter &amp; Wi-Fi</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Integrated	Marine-grade	Heading	✗	IPX7	2 year	
<a href="#">Simrad RS40-B VHF Radio with Class B AIS and GPS Antenna</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	Extra cost	Marine-grade	✗	Mono with radio	???	2 year	
<a href="#">Raymarine AIS700 Class B SOTDMA AIS Transceiver</a>	Class B SO (5 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	Integrated	Marine-grade	✗	✗	IPX6/7	2 year	
<a href="#">Vesper Marine WatchMate Vision2</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	Extra cost	Internal	✓	Color	IPx7	2 year	
<a href="#">Vesper Marine XB-6000 AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	Extra cost	Marine-grade	✓	✗	IPx7	2 year	
<a href="#">Vesper Marine XB-8000 AIS Transponder</a>	Class B CS (2 watt)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	Extra cost	Marine-grade	✓	✗	IPx7	2 year	

NOTE: See next page for feature definitions.



FEATURE	DEFINITION
<b>AIS type</b>	<p>There are two types of Class B AIS Transponders:</p> <p><a href="#">Class B CSTDMA 2-watt</a>: The traditional Class B units, have a transmit range of 5-7 miles and use the carrier sense system for managing transmission slots.</p> <p><a href="#">Class B SOTDMA 5-watt</a>: This is a new type of Class B transponder. These units transmit with 5 watts of power and typically transmit 10-15 miles. These use the same self-organized slot management system as commercial Class A transponders.</p> <p>We also sell <a href="#">Class A 12.5-watt transponders</a> which are typically used on commercial vessels. These have a transmit range of 25-30 miles.</p> <p>All AIS transponders have integrated AIS receivers in addition to the AIS transmitter.</p>
<b>NMEA 0183</b>	<p>This allows the transponder to be connected to NMEA 0183 marine devices typically for outputting AIS and GPS data to chartplotters. Transponders can also often take NMEA 0183 data, such as heading data, on the input wires. NMEA 0183 uses two wires for output signals and two for input. All transponders we sell support NMEA 0183.</p>
<b>NMEA 2000</b>	<p><a href="#">NMEA 2000</a> is the industry-wide standard for interconnecting low and medium bandwidth marine devices. A transponder with this feature can be easily connected to an existing NMEA 2000 network allowing for AIS and GPS data exchange between the transponder and other NMEA 2000 devices such as chartplotters.</p>
<b>USB</b>	<p>A USB interface allows the transponder to be programmed using a PC or Mac. The USB interface can also be used for sending AIS and GPS data to a PC or Mac-based marine navigation package.</p>
<b>Wi-Fi</b>	<p>Wi-Fi support allows the transponder to be used wirelessly with mobile devices and computers. When coupled with AIS-capable navigation software and apps on devices such as iPads, end users can see AIS traffic overlaid on charts. Many popular apps for <a href="#">iPad</a> (iNavX, TZ iBoat, SealQ, iSailor, iRegatta), Android (OpenCPN, iSailor, MemoryMap), Windows-based PCs (<a href="#">Rose Point Coastal Explorer</a>, <a href="#">TimeZero</a>) and Mac (OpenCPN, MacENC) can be used with your transponder via a wireless connection. Some vendors, such as <a href="#">Vesper</a>, have their own advanced mobile apps that do sophisticated alarm management, anchor alarm and more.</p>
<b>SAT-AIS / Message 27</b>	<p><a href="#">Class B SOTDMA</a> and <a href="#">Class A</a> transponders typically support long-range AIS "Message 27" which is a special vessel identification message transmitted on different frequencies by the transponder and optimized for reception by AIS-enabled satellites (SAT-AIS). These higher-powered transponders are also more likely to be picked up by satellites. If you are travelling in remote waters and want to be tracked by satellite AIS services, consider a transponder that supports this capability.</p>
<b>VDR</b>	<p>Some transponders support a Voyage Data Recorder (VDR) capability either via internal memory or an SD card plugged into the unit. This automatically logs the AIS and GPS data from your voyage. This is a popular feature for commercial users, predicted log racers and other racing boats allowing the user to replay their past voyages.</p>
<b>VHF antenna splitter</b>	<p>The most popular accessory for an AIS transponder is a <a href="#">VHF antenna splitter</a>. This allows you to safely share your main VHF radio antenna with your AIS transponder and VHF radio. Modern splitters are fully automatic, have zero loss for reception via integrated amplifiers and simplify installation. Some transponders have integrated VHF antenna splitters. Or you can get a splitter as part of a bundle or purchased separately. Antenna splitters should not be used on mandated vessels with Class A AIS.</p>
<b>GPS antenna bundled</b>	<p>All AIS transponders are required to use their own integrated GPS system which is built into the transponder unit. The integrated GPS system needs to be connected to a GPS antenna in order to work. Some units have a GPS antenna embedded inside the transponder case. Other units require an <a href="#">external GPS antenna</a> to be connected to the GPS antenna port on the transponder. Many manufacturers bundle a GPS antenna - either internal or external or both - with the transponder. In some cases, you can choose different types of GPS antennas when you make your purchase. Existing GPS antennas intended for use with other types of marine equipment, such as chartplotters, are not compatible with AIS transponders.</p>
<b>NMEA multiplexing</b>	<p>Some AIS transponders can multiplex inbound NMEA 0183 or NMEA 2000 data (such as heading, depth, wind) and output AIS, GPS and the other multiplexed marine data via a Wi-Fi or USB interface. With this capability users can see all of the combined data using supported apps and software on connected devices.</p>
<b>Integrated screen</b>	<p>Some transponders have an integrated display screen for showing AIS data and other vessel information. This feature is popular with users who have older pre-AIS chartplotters and boaters who want a dedicated screen just for viewing AIS targets. All units with integrated displays can also be used with other displays via NMEA, USB or in some cases Wi-Fi.</p>
<b>IP rating</b>	<p>Most transponders have some level of protection against dampness, splashing and dust. The <a href="#">IP rating</a> lets you know how much dust and water protection the unit has.</p>
<b>Warranty</b>	<p>All AIS transponders have at least a one-year warranty to cover repair due to manufacturer defects. Some manufacturers go beyond a year. Note, warranties do not cover damage due to installation errors, lightning or misuse.</p>
<b>Price</b>	<p>C [redacted] rs w [redacted]</p>

