

Shallow Draft Magazine

June 2002



GULF SOUTH

EMI Moving to Meet Needs of Marine Industry

EMI continues to invest in their future in the marine industry, first with the development of new marine product solutions and now with a move to a new facility twice the size of the one they have been in for 25 years. Effective mid May, EMI moved into a new purpose-built facility in T.L. James Industrial Park in St. Rose, LA, only 5 miles from the New Orleans Airport. The new 24,000 sq.ft. facility, located at 191 W. James Dr., was specifically designed to meet the future needs of the industry with additional acreage available for further expansion. "We have built it to make additional room for our Waterjet cutting machine, hydraulic power unit fabrication, engineering and software design and, of course, to house over a million dollars in inventory necessary to manufacture our products and support our customers," stated Ken Cognevich, president and original founder of EMI. "With a growth of personnel by 50% in the last two years, we needed the room to continue our expansion efforts."

Under the guidance of general manager Jack Rowley, EMI has moved to the forefront of technology through several innovative product development and teaming arrangements, including:

- Development of a U.S. designed and manufactured dynamic positioning system that can be fully integrated into the EMI steering and engine control systems to provide a single solution to what is now a complex integration issue.
- Design and manufacture of a new EMI engine control system which was designed from the ground up for high reliability and ease of calibrations, troubleshooting and maintenance

- Steering system improvements to include more emphasis on proportional steering and the design of simpler and smaller power units through horsepower limiting and increased use of improving manifold technology. EMI builds all steering power units and controls in-house.
- Being certified as a SIEMENS Solution Provider for the Marine Industry in January 2002, EMI has the support and backing of one of the largest electronics and electrical companies in the world. EMI has branched into providing full alarm and monitoring ACCU automation systems, power management systems and also uses the SIEMENS PLC products as the core of their new dynamic positioning system.
- Expanding on the extensive EMI experience in the design and manufacture of pilothouse and engine room consoles to establish a base in providing a full integrated bridge concept to EMI's customers. EMI is currently working with a major electronics manufacturer to be able to provide the customer the full IBS console requirements, including the electronics.

When asked about where the next step of the technology is headed at EMI, Jack Rowley responded, "With the above products individually available to our customers, we are concentrating heavily in the integration of these systems. It not only allows the systems to work smarter as an integrated design but also saves money in using common components for multiple system applications." Contact EMI at (504) 620-9800 or visit www.emi-marine.com.

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