

PORT NETWORKS

PRESS RELEASE

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January 29, 2010

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PORT NETWORKS RELEASES WORLD'S FIRST MARINE ETHERNET SWITCH

Baltimore, MD – January 29, 2010 – As the number of vessels with onboard computer networks continues to grow, more and more boat owners and electronics installers are searching for networking equipment designed for use at sea. This month, the company behind the well-known MWB-200 and MWB-250 marine wireless bridges has released another solution for staying online even while you're afloat: the Port Network MES-05P, the world's first marine Ethernet switch.

Ethernet switches are the work horses of today's computer networks, connecting together computers, servers, and routers and directing traffic between these different types of devices. Hundreds of different makes and models are available, but until now, none was engineered for the special requirements of a marine environment.

"Our customers are tired of trying to use gear designed for a home or office when they're on a boat," says Port Networks Product Manager Carl Peterson. "They asked us to recommend an Ethernet switch that would work as well on the water as our MWBs do, and when we couldn't find one, we ended up developing our own."

The MES-05P is a five-port switch, with two ports that support Power-over-Ethernet. That means it can support two POE devices – like a marine wireless bridge and a marine access point – while also providing a connection for three other Ethernet devices. Port Networks is selling the MES-05P as the heart of a complete onboard network that offers both wired and wireless Internet connectivity for onboard computers.

Unlike consumer-grade switches, the MES-05P offers full Gigabit (1000Mbps) switching inside a NEMA-6 rated weatherproof enclosure. The robust aluminum case is powder-coated in marine white epoxy, with flanges for easy mounting to bulkhead surfaces. A pole-mount kit is also available as an option.

Each port on the MES-05P features a watertight, quick-disconnect RJ-45 connector to protect against corrosion in a marine environment. The unit runs on standard 12V marine power, and has a self-sealing, detachable power cord for easy installation and maintenance.

(more follows...)

PORT NETWORKS, LLC

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PORT NETWORKS RELEASES WORLD'S FIRST MARINE ETHERNET SWITCH, cont.

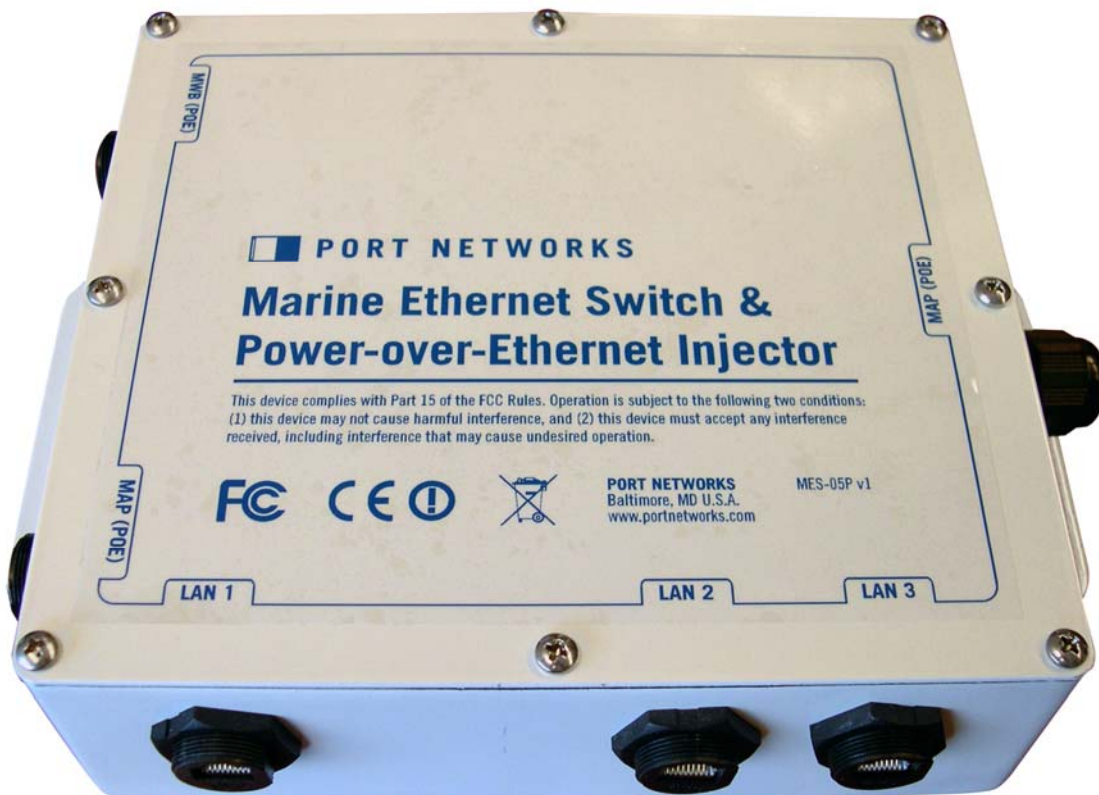
Pricing & Availability

The MES-05P is currently available directly from Port Networks for \$299. That price includes the switch and a 5 meter (15') power cable. Marine Ethernet cables can be added to the system individually, and are priced at \$29.95 each.

More information about the company's marine networking products is available from the company's online store, located at <http://store.portnetworks.com>. Customers can also order through the Port Networks toll-free sales number, 877-4PN-WIFI (877-476-9434).

About Port Networks

Port Networks is a privately-held wireless equipment developer and Internet service provider, located in Baltimore, MD. The company was founded in 2003 and serves customers in the marine, residential, and commercial markets. In 2006, the company released the world's first Marine Wireless Bridge, providing a powerful tool for boat owners and others to connect to onshore Wi-Fi networks while they are afloat. The company currently supplies MWB units to vessels around the world.



With its weatherproof connectors and durable aluminum enclosure, the MES-05P is the world's only Ethernet switch designed for a marine environment.