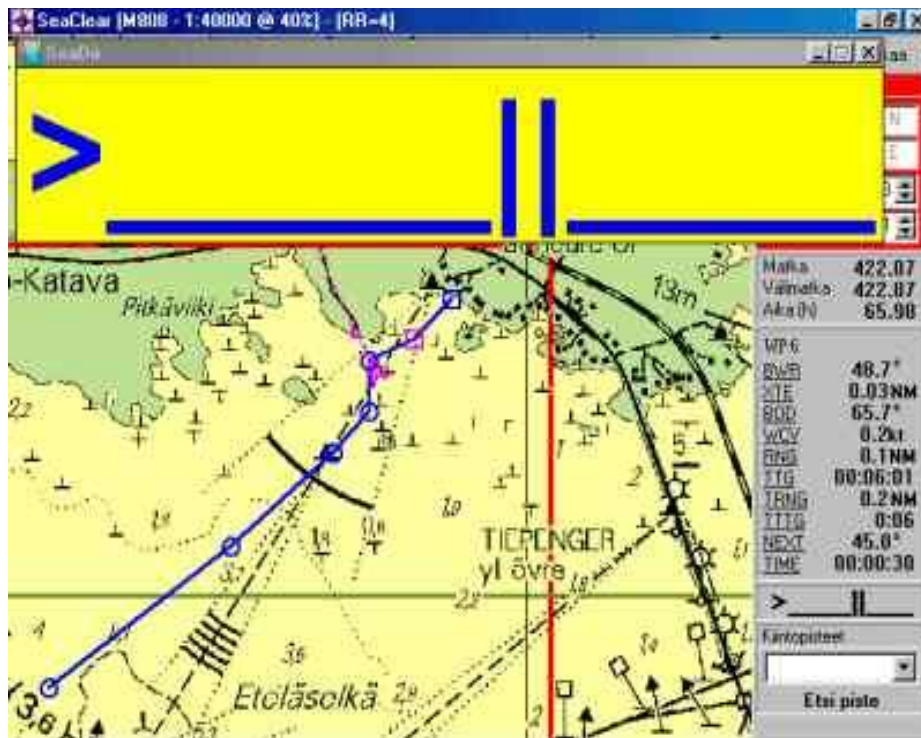


SeaDir

Steering indicator to be used with SeaClear

Table of contents

- Preface.....3
- Sub product.....3
- Setting Up.....3
- SeaClear.....3
- SeaDir.....3
- Program.....4
- Startup.....4
- Adjusting.....4
- INI-file.....4
- Warnings.....5
- NOTE!.....5



Preface

Sub product

SeaDir was born while making program SeaDrive. Actually it was the original name of the SeaDrive that somehow changed when project grow up.

SeaDir just imitates the original route indicator of SeaClear. But it does it by its own calculations and that's why sometimes those two indicators can show different directions.

Because SeaDir is just a sub product of SeaDrive it must be remembered that if SeaDrive does not work this doesn't, too.

Both programs are written during autumn and winter 2004-2005, off season. So real tests are still pending.

And finally question: Why ?

Because it could be nice to see the steering direction without optical accessories, specially if you drive boat from back while peeking PC that is inside the cabin. Original SeaClear's display may be too small then.

This should help.

Setting Up

SeaClear

To get all needed information with DDE-link from SeaClear DDE must be activated at SeaClear. This is done by adding one line to SEACLEAR_2.INI to "Program" section. This line can be added as last line of the file using a text editor like NOTEPAD while SeaClear is NOT in use.

Line goes as follows:

DDE=1

After that file must be saved and SeaClear can be started.

SeaDir

SeaDir.exe can be copied to same directory as SeaClear is. Shortcut can be placed on desktop to make starting easy.

Program

Startup

SeaDir should be started AFTER SeaClear. If it is done other way round SeaDir will not start as it does not detect DDE-link. Also closing should go in same way, first SeaDir then SeaClear.

After start SeaDir will say “No Route!”, if no route is currently active on SeaClear. It will also go on background when SeaClear is operated by mouse.

When route is loaded and activated SeaDir will pop on top and stays there even when SeaClear is operated. It will drop down again when route is finished or interrupted by user.

SeaDir can be dropped down with “-”button on right top, or shut completely down with “X”button at right top.

Adjusting

There are nothing to adjust while program is running.

After first run program generates “seadir.ini” to current directory. It will also look up and use it at startup if it is found.

Seadir.ini can be edited with notepad while program is not running.

INI-file

```
# SeaDir settings written 4.2.2005 9:10:03
```

```
XteMin=20
```

```
XteDriveLimit=80
```

XteMin Limit value for being inside route line. If boat gets out of this limit SeaDir starts to point direct(angle) to route line, instead of pointing to next active route point. This is for return right back to route line instead continuing way to next route point. When ship is again inside this limit SeaDir starts point back to next active route point.

Value is 1/1000 nautical mile (abt 1,8meters).

XteDriveLimit

With this value the maximum safe distance from route line can be set.

SeaDir will still point, now right angle back to route line, actual values but the background of display turns from yellow to red.

This is warning that extreme care should be taken to check ship's actual position.

Value is 1/1000 nautical mile (abt 1,8meters).

Warnings

Never trust electrical navigation equipments ! GPS may turn down and PC may freeze.

Always keep original maps and manual navigation equipments available and learn how to use them. When in trouble, you do not have time to learn any more.

Never, ever leave boat running by automatic steering system without immediate supervision. All automatics are only helpers to give more time to skipper to watch the route and shop functions.

This program *is not intended to be used* for boat steering without *immediate supervision*. This project has been more a technical challenge, than a need to create full working steering system.

Author of this program does not take any responsibility about physical, mental or economical damages to user or surrounding environment that may happen when this program is in use.

If you find this program useful feel free to use and copy it. Only limitation is that this document must always follow the main program file.

Author reserves full copyright to program .

Comments and suggestions are welcome, but there is no guarantee that they will appear on next versions.

NOTE!

This program , now at version 1.0, is written completely during autumn and winter 2004 -2005 off-season. No real time tests have ever been made with boat and it will be possible first time on spring 2005.

Does it work at all, who knows?