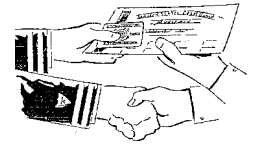

PE

Speed-gram



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Navigating with GPS

A One-Lesson Course

Navigating with GPS is a new one-lesson course on the use of the *Global Positioning System* (GPS) soon to be available from your materials center. This course was developed jointly by the *United States Coast Guard Auxiliary* (USCGAUX) and the *Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons* (CPS). The course is intended as a two-hour introduction to GPS and can serve as an ideal “gateway” to our *Basic Coastal Navigation* (BCN) or *Advanced Coastal Navigation* (ACN) courses. A short course presents opportunities not generally available with our longer courses. For example, it may be possible to find alternative classroom space for such a course—such as at a marina, yacht club, or marine dealer (particularly one that sells GPS units). Prospective students may be more inclined to sign up for a short course because this represents less of a commitment on their part.

The course materials consist of a text (*Navigating with GPS*), short (10-question) examination, answer sheet, and certificate of completion. An *Instructor Guide* (IG) is also available. Overhead transparency masters are also available for purchase in black and white.

A color overhead version will be available shortly in Power Point at no cost for Auxiliary units with access to the web. You will be able to just go to the USCGAUX web site and download the presentation. If your Flotilla or Division has a color printer, attractive overheads are only keystrokes away! This is the first of our courses that will be supported in this way. In the future, all BS&S and SF overheads will also be available on the USCGAUX website.

Navigating with GPS can be taught by any instructor familiar with navigation generally, and GPS in particular. This policy provides Auxiliary units with great flexibility. However, as they say, “you never get a second chance to make a first impression.” This is particularly true with short courses. A capable and enthusiastic instructor not only presents a good class, but also increases the likelihood that students will sign up for other courses. Instructors should be thoroughly familiar with the text.

The overhead masters serve as a skeleton for an effective lesson plan. There are 49 overheads in the set. This creates a moderate, but comfortable, pace for a two-hour lesson. The examination is straightforward and anyone who pays attention to the lecture should have no difficulty.