

**Communications and Tracking Plan**  
**PYC Race to Hemingway Marina**  
**31 Oct 2015**

**Scope:** This addendum summarizes the communications and tracking requirements for yachts entering in the Cuba Race 2015.

**Waiver to RRS Rules Regarding Inter-Competitor Communications:** Racers/Cruisers are encouraged to communicate during the conduct of the Race.

**Clock Times:** Time zones in the US and Cuba will change from Daylight Time to Standard Time at 0200 Local, 1 November 2015, during the conduct of the Race/Race Start Sequence. To minimize time computations, the Race will be conducted on CDT (=UTC-5hrs), which will allow the Race to be conducted without changing Ship's Time or the Race Clock from start to finish. You should be on local time when you arrive at Hemingway Yacht Club.

**General Required Communications and Tracking Equipment:**

VHF two-way

MF/HF SSB radio or functioning SAT Phone

Kattack compatible trackers:

Spot Tracker Gen 3

DeLorme In Reach Explorer

{iPhone with Kattack Mobile installed + Iridium GO, new info}

**Communication and Tracking Details:**

You will have a mandatory Kattack compatible tracking device(s) and a satellite phone or functioning, properly licensed SSB on board. As long as the transponder is working there is no requirement to call into the Race Committee. All Racers will be required to be in a listening condition each day during the Race from 0830-0900 hrs CDT (1330-1400 UTC) or those using SSB, the standby frequency is 8294.0 MHz. If a transponder fails for whatever reason or its track is lost, the Race Committee will attempt to call the vessel's satellite phone or SSB at those times, or relay through other racers via VHF. Once it is determined that the vessel is not in danger, that vessel will then be required to call the Race Committee via satellite phone or SSB at 0800-0900 CDT (1300-1400 UTC) each day to report their position until they complete the race. The number is 850-433-2722, SSB frequency is 8294.0 MHz Upper Sideband Simplex. Back up cell phone numbers for the RC will be provided at the Skipper's Meeting.

**Communications and Check In Prior to Departure:**

To be scored as completing the Race, boats shall be required to establish two-way communication and tracking with the R/C no later than the Skipper's Meeting.

The check-in with the Race Committee shall be either by SSB or through SAT Phone service. If possible good KATTACK tracking will be verified simultaneously. This communications and tracking checkout shall occur prior to the Skipper's Meeting. Race Committee will be monitoring 8.294 Upper SSB Simplex from 1800-1900 CDT (0100-0200 UTC) on 29 Oct and 1630-1730 CDT (2130-2230 UTC) on 30 Oct for SSB equipped boats, and at the same times on 850-433-2722 for SAT phone equipped boats. All entrants shall check in during these time frames.

### **Checking In with other Racers While at Sea (Calling Schedule):**

**All Boats:** Mid-gulf Fleet check-in times will be 1100 hrs CDT (1600 hrs UTC) on VHF Channel 16. Exchange your LAT/LON with any vessels you communicate with and maintain a log of this information for the duration of the race. Please be aware that the tracking log may be used to verify time and distance spent motoring. Even if you cannot reach any vessels (as is often the case) they may be hearing you. Therefore, transmit your vessel name and LAT/LON in the blind, then sign out.

Vessels with HAM radios should be aware that the **Waterway Net**, 7.268 MHz LSB, has Gulf weather around 0755 EST and will be monitored from 0800 to 0830 EST by W4PYC or W0PBP (representing the Race Committee). Also the Maritime Mobile Service Net operates on 14.300 MHz USB from 1200 pm to 2100 pm EST providing weather information hourly on the half hour and augmenting communications both with net stations and relays, and often with phone patches. For more information see [www.mmsn.org](http://www.mmsn.org).

### **Tracking Details:**

**A Reminder:** The majority of the course is outside of normal cellphone coverage, meaning all tracking information will necessarily use a satellite link to be forwarded to KATTACK.. {Automatic position reporting to Kattack using a smartphone with Kattack Mobile installed will require relaying position data via an appropriate satellite service such as Iridium GO}. SPOT and DeLorme systems use satellites for data relay by default. Those buying their trackers will have to do their own set-up. Those renting the devices can expect this somewhat involved set-up to be done by the rental service.

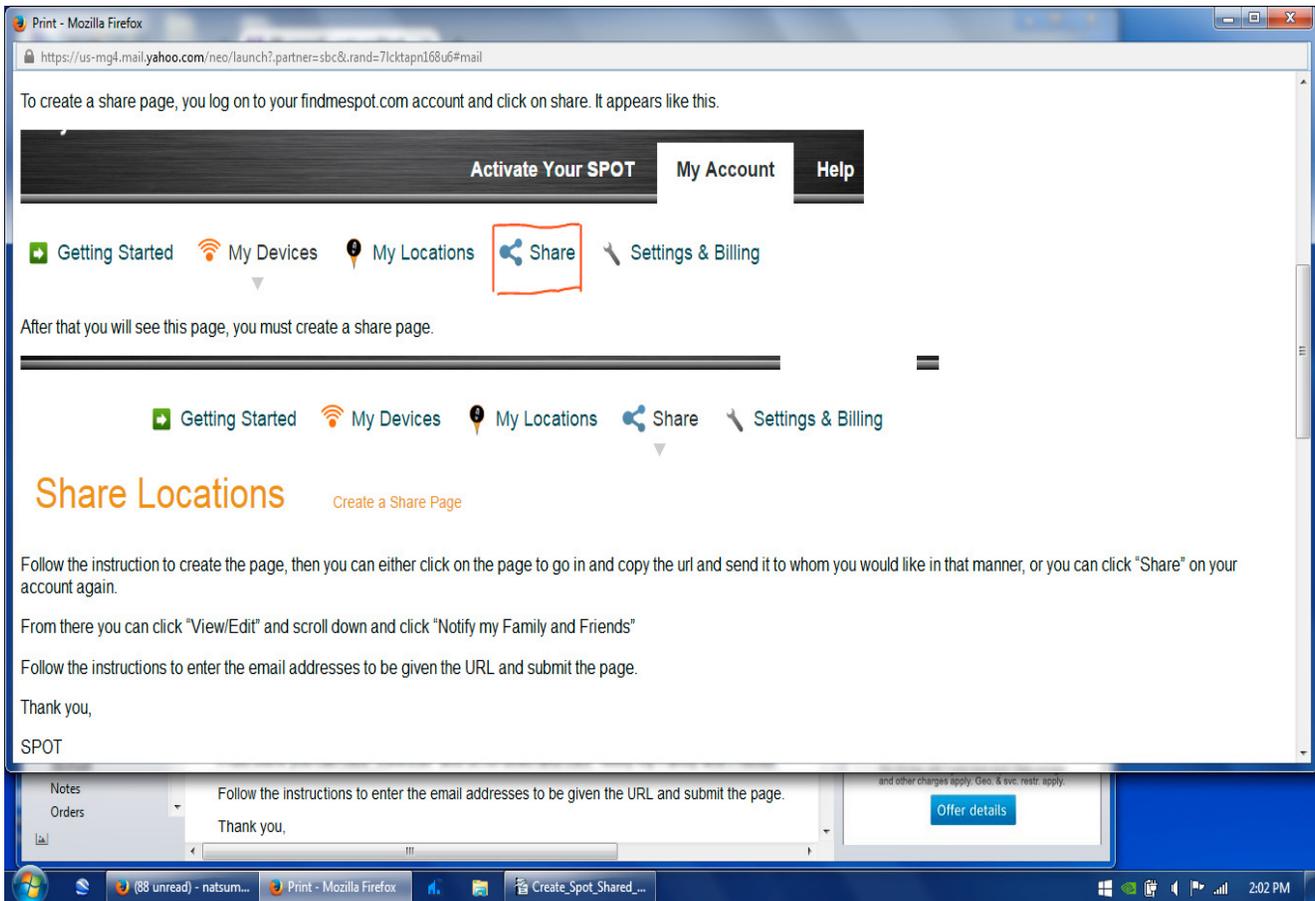
A link to KATTACK Tracking showing race entrant positions will be placed on the Cuba Race 2015 website for viewing by all interested.

SPOT GPS enabled or DeLorme transponders {or iPhone+KATTACK Mobile APP+Iridium GO} will be required for all boats participating in the Regatta. Willful tampering, disabling or shielding of a transponder may be grounds for disqualification or time penalty by the Race Committee (see note below about resetting every 24 hours for the older SPOTS).

### **How to set up tracking using a Spot Gen 3 Tracker:**

This assumes you have already signed up for a SPOT account, and have also signed up for the 'full time tracking' option, which is needed for a Kattack track for the Cuba Race 2015.

1. Log on to your Spot account and click on "Share" (Highlighted on red on below screen shot).



2. Follow the instructions (bottom of above screen shot).

The instructions read: “Follow the instruction to create the page, then you can either click on the page to go in and copy the url and send it to whom you would like in that manner, or you can click “Share” on your account again.

[If you wish] From there you can click “View/Edit” and scroll down and click “Notify my Family and Friends”

Follow the instructions to enter the email addresses to be given the URL and submit the page”

**Note:** Make sure the entire URL is highlighted!

3. Forward your shared page URL to [natsum@bellsouth.net](mailto:natsum@bellsouth.net) with a copy to [jdoertin@southernco.com](mailto:jdoertin@southernco.com). Also recommend that you paste the URL into an email to yourself, so you can *test* the link to make sure it was created properly. Other messaging options are available to family and friends should you wish.

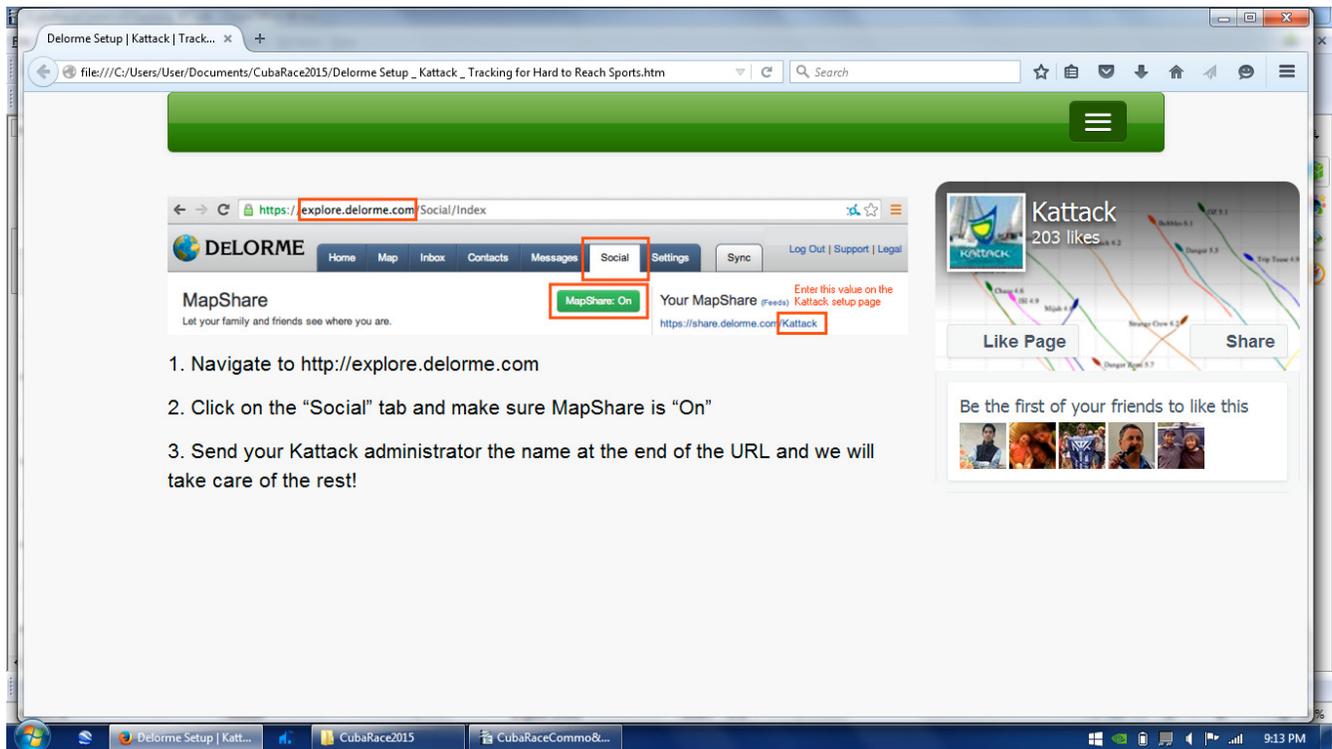
4. The RC will compile a scratch sheet with all URLs and forward to KATTACK.

**SPOT Trackers before Gen 3!**

NOTE: Older SPOT transponders must be turned off, then back on every 24 hours. We recommend picking a recurring time each day (for example: noon) when you turn the SPOT off, replace the batteries then turn it back on. While the batteries should last for longer than 24 hours, it is nice to know they are fresh in case you have to use the “911” feature. The “used” batteries can then be re-used for flashlights, GPS etc.

### How to Get Started using a DeLorme InReach Explorer Tracker:

1. Navigate to <http://explore.delorme.com>
2. Click on the “Social” tab and make sure MapShare is “On”
3. Send your RC ( the name at the end of the URL and we [DeLorme] will take care of the rest! (Send a copy of the entire URL to [natsum@bellsouth.net](mailto:natsum@bellsouth.net) with a copy to [jdoertin@southernco.com](mailto:jdoertin@southernco.com). ). Check by sending a copy of the URL to yourself. The RC will compile a scratch sheet with all URLs and forward to KATTACK.
4. Screen shot of the DeLorme web page.



### Disclaimer!

**Recreational use only:** The boat tracking and related services provided are for recreational purposes only. Kattack does not guarantee the delivery of data products and/or charts. As this service is for recreational use only, neither SPOT, DeLorme, Kattack nor the Cuba Race 2015 Race Committee imply in any way that the boat tracking service can be counted on as a safety device.

### Communications with Fixed Stations:

US Coast Guard Sector Pensacola

Telephone: 850-453-8282

US Coast Guard Sector St. Petersburg  
Telephone: 727-824-7534

US Coast Guard Sector Key West  
Telephone: 305-292-8713

**United States Coast Guard**  
**DISTRESS AND SAFETY WATCHKEEPING SCHEDULE**  
**HF RADIOTELEPHONE (SINGLE SIDEBAND) – DISTRESS AND**  
**INITIAL CONTACT**  
**EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2013**

Authorized for the handling of Distress message traffic and initial contact with United States Coast Guard Long Range Communication facilities.

KHz SHIP STATION	KHz COAST STATION	NMF	NMN	NMA	NMG
4125	4125	2300-1100Z	2300-1100Z	2300-1100Z	2300-1100Z
6215	6215	24 HRS	24 HRS	24 HRS	24 HRS
8291	8291	24 HRS	24 HRS	24 HRS	24 HRS
12290	12290	1100-2300Z	1100-2300Z	1100-2300Z	1100-2300Z
KHz SHIP STATION	KHz COAST STATION	Station and Schedule (UTC)		NMC	NMO
4125	4125			24 HRS	0600-1800Z
6215	6215	24 HRS		24 HRS	24 HRS
8291	8291	24 HRS		24 HRS	
12290	12290	24 HRS		1800-0600Z	
KHz SHIP STATION		KHz COAST STATION		Station and Schedule (UTC) Guam	
6215		6215		0900-2100Z	
12290		12290		2100-0900Z	