



# NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES INTERACTIVE KIOSK PROGRAM



## **Background**

The Sanctuary Interactive Kiosk program offers a high-impact visual and auditory showcase of all the treasures the sanctuary has to offer. Users can learn about the research projects, education, outreach and resource protection programs, and extensive information on sanctuary species and habitats. With the click of a button users can view underwater video of local shipwrecks & research projects currently underway in the sanctuary. The kiosks also provide real-time weather information from NOAA weather products, allowing users to check offshore marine forecasts, tides & currents, swell models & sea surface temperatures. The result of the program is a better and more meaningful experience for visitors who get to see and interact with sanctuary resources in a way not before possible.

## **Prototype**

The first prototype kiosk was installed at the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary in late April 2005. In the first 90 days of operation there have been over 2,100 users and nearly 300 hours of recorded use. The kiosk offers real-time weather information from the National Weather Service, site specific as well as National Program information. It also includes information from partners outside of ONMS. The kiosk program has gone through an extensive design process to come up with a “look and feel” that accommodates ONMS design standards, Section 508 and ADA guidelines.

The National Marine Sanctuary Programs user interface is one of the most in-depth and content rich kiosks anywhere. Maintaining the program’s commitment to outreach and education, the kiosk serves as an interactive collection of knowledge and information. The kiosk offers a wealth of information that is just a few clicks away from the public in a simple and easy to use touch screen interface. Kiosk users interested in learning about the National Marine Sanctuary

program can read about the sanctuaries and where they are located as well as the goals of the program itself. A truly interactive and multimedia experience keeps users engaged as they watch videos on scientists at sea or underwater habitats. They can even take “A Visual Journey” through the waters of the sanctuaries and see what treasures are contained in the ocean.

Because each sanctuary has its own unique makeup of attractions and marine life, much of the kiosk’s content is specific to its location. For example, there are nearly 200 documented shipwrecks in the waters of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS), therefore there is a section of the interface where users can read about and watch video explorations of several underwater expeditions. In-depth information of the sanctuary’s unique marine life and environment is available to educate users on the area’s ecological makeup. Sanctuary visitors can view interactive maps of the area, nautical charts or even see 3D animations of the ocean floor.

The interface includes an entire section just for children called “Kids Corner”. Here children can see and learn about aquatic life in a fun and entertaining way. Several Flash games give children a fun activity but also teach important messages central to the NMS program. The Kids Corner has quickly become one of the most popular sections of the kiosk.

Local sailors and fishermen can use the kiosk for up-to-the-minute reports on weather and ocean conditions. This information can be crucial for anyone intending to take a boat out on the waters in and around the sanctuary. In the weather section, users can view reports on various weather related topics. Forecasts, wind models, satellite and radar images, tide and current conditions and even data streamed from weather buoys are all available through links to various web services. The kiosks software maintains the ability to lock down the web interface when information is streamed from a web source (such as the National Weather Service) the user only sees the specific map, forecast or radar

image for their area and can not use the kiosk to browse the web. This ensures that the kiosk cannot be accidentally or intentionally compromised.

## **System Requirements**

Kiosks are different from websites in that they are not in HTML format although the interface is quite similar. Setting up a system of kiosks at a sanctuary location requires management of the content and design process, coordination with the kiosk team and the various sanctuary partners. In addition, graphic materials need optimizing, photos and other elements need editing and formatting to fit the kiosks specific requirements. 24 hour high-speed internet access is required for all units.

# Indoor Kiosks

## Offshore Kiosk

Offshore, surf on the good wave. With its small footprint, the kiosk contains a 17 inch LCD with Capacitive Touchscreen and the enclosure is constructed of 16-gauge metal. Offshore is easily transported in a custom flight case. There is a lockable access panel at the front making upgrading and maintenance easy. Its structure combines strength, attractiveness and cost effectiveness. This mobile indoor kiosk unit is shaped to resemble a wave and will be branded to match the desired look. The unit will be the glass blue as pictured with the NMSP logo on the front.



17 inch LCD Touch Screen  
Height: 49 inches  
Width: 17 inches  
Depth: 12 inches  
Thickness at the top: 1 inch  
Footprint: 16.5 x 12  
Weight: 88 pounds  
Speakers  
ADA Accessible  
Standard color: Royal Blue

# Indoor Kiosks

## i-beam Kiosk

Smart and elegant in design the iBeam is designed to fit seamlessly into any indoor environment. The standard monitor is a 17-inch LCD flat screen that has a viewable area equivalent to a 19-inch CRT. There is an optional freestanding base and for permanent installations the kiosk can be bolted to the floor for added stability and security with the power and data cords directed through the base.



17 inch LCD Touch Screen  
Height: 49 inches  
Width: 28 inches  
Depth: 13 inches  
Thickness at the top: 3 inches  
Footprint: 25 inches  
Weight: 100 pounds  
Speakers  
Standard color: Royal Blue  
ADA Accessible

# Indoor Kiosks

## Eurotouch Kiosk Indoor model

The Euro Touch Indoor model is a sleek freestanding unit which looks great in any environment. Its ultra thin design has an attractive brushed aluminum skin. The Euro Touch Indoor is offered with an optional bracket for wall mounting.



19 inch TFT LCD Touch Screen  
Height: 57 inches  
Width: 20 inches  
Depth: 20 inches  
Footprint:  
Weight: 99 pounds  
Speakers  
Brushed Aluminum Exterior  
ADA Accessible

# Outdoor Kiosks

## Eurotouch Kiosk Outdoor model

The Euro Touch Outdoor kiosk is weatherproof, vandal resistant, affordable, functional and beautiful. Each kiosk unit has four long bolt down rods designed into the enclosure to insure long-term stability in any location. The touch screen is the brightest and is readable in direct sun light. The kiosk is a sleek freestanding unit that can be used in any outdoor environment. The unit's internal temperature is self-regulated. This outdoor model will adapt to all four seasons and protects its electronic components from extreme temperature daThis is a highly attractive kiosk, perfect for any harsh public environment. Unlike other outdoor kiosks, the Euro Touch Outdoor model does not need to be sheltered from the elements.



- 17 inch Direct Sun Touch Screen
- Automatic Brightness Sensor
- Height: 64 inches
- Width: 20 inches
- Depth: 7 inches
- Screen Height 54 inches
- Weight: 225 pounds
- Speakers
- Stainless Steel Frame / Aluminum Exterior
- Internal Climate Control
- ADA Accessible