



Sloman Neptun combines dual Starlinks with VSAT for ultimate hybrid connectivity setup

Bremen based Sloman Neptun operates a modern fleet of 19 tankers and dry cargo vessels and the company has begun rolling out dual Starlink antennas across its ships with Navarino. Ingo Wenske, IT Admin, and Eckhard Bartkowski, Head of IT, who are overseeing the project explained the thinking behind their new setup –

‘We have chosen Starlink because we really wanted to upgrade the connectivity available onboard our fleet. In tests, we found that with a single antenna, there were occasional signal drops either because of the vessel’s course, or due to obstructions. This is why we have decided to adopt a dual antenna approach with Starlink, in order to minimize such disruptions and to

provide high speed, low latency connectivity as seamlessly as possible. We also have VSAT installed, which will now act as a backup system for us.

We are looking forward to the new possibilities that Starlink can offer for both our business and crew welfare operations. In the past, using VSAT we found that it could often be difficult to effectively synchronize onboard business applications because of the lower speed and higher latency of VSAT. Now, with Starlink this becomes much more feasible and its high speeds mean that we can effectively treat our vessels as a true extension of our office – for example we are also going to begin using Microsoft Teams for video calling with our fleet over the Starlink connection, something which really wasn’t possible before with VSAT only.

“Keeping the VSAT in combination with Starlink is very important. There are areas around the world that Starlink is not approved for usage and so having a fall back system like the VSAT is crucial”

Eckhard Bartkowski, Head of IT

We have already had very positive feedback from our shore based IT teams who are really happy with the functionality that Starlink provides, as it makes remote access both to and from the vessel very smooth and seamless, which is a major upgrade to the way they work.

Frieder Voelsen, Account Manager for Navarino Germany added ‘We are very proud to be working with Sloman Neptun on this project. Combining dual Starlink antennas with VSAT is the ultimate connectivity approach and we are delighted that they have put their trust in Navarino to deliver the high speed, low latency connectivity of Starlink. I look forward to supporting and working closely with them for many years to come.’



VShips chooses to boost the health of its crews with Vikand

VShips Greece, has recently decided to begin rolling out Vikand's maritime healthcare services from Navarino to its seafarers.

Vikand offers a wide range of services and product solutions to help ensure optimal levels of care for crew, including a proactive, holistic approach that offers regular house doctor calls, emergency services, medical chest supply and mental wellness programs for seafarers. Of most interest to VShips is the mental

wellness program that Vikand offers, with training modules that are designed to increase officers' knowledge and understanding of mental health issues at sea, including how to recognize warning signs and how to provide initial support to colleagues in need. They also train officers to recognize various factors that can contribute to suicide and self-harm at sea, and how to approach and communicate with a colleague who may be at risk.

“We believe that our crews deserve the best levels of support in all areas, especially in areas as important as their physical and mental health.”

Zafeiris Syrras, General Manager

Katerina Liaki, Navarino's Account Manager for Vikand services said 'We believe that the ability to offer rapid diagnoses of health issues, and the security of knowing there is a dedicated team of medical professionals that those at sea can contact whenever they need to will help bring a new level of peace of mind and wellbeing to VShips seafarers. What's more, the Vikand certification that VShips is rolling out for its ships gives the company full compliance with the Rightship Ship Inspection Questionnaire (RISQ) 3.0.'

Mr Zafeiris Syrras, General Manager for VShips added 'For us, as for most ship managers, our people are our most important asset, so when we discovered the opportunity to help improve the difficult conditions that all seafarers face on a daily basis, we knew it was an easy choice to add Vikand services to our fleet.'

The new Infinity release, 2.8.6 is deployed

This version focuses on providing features to make better use of high-speed connectivity networks and modernizing some of the Infinity subsystems. Building on Navarino's long-standing commitment to empower customers with cutting-edge connectivity, we have introduced an exclusive set of tailored Infinity features, accessible to all Navarino Starlink subscribers.

These features unlock unique functionalities through Infinity, ensuring smoother connectivity and an enhanced user experience. It also includes a few minor bugfixes.

Unlock unique functionalities for your LEO terminals!



Gourdomichalis Maritime SA partners with Navarino to rollout Vikand healthcare services

Gourdomichalis Maritime SA operates a modern fleet of dry bulk carriers from its Athens Headquarters. The company is currently in the process of enhancing the welfare of its seafarers by offering them Vikand healthcare services from Navarino.

Vikand provides seafarers with direct access to medical advice and assistance through its unique application, ranging from real-time video calls with medical professionals, rapid diagnosis based on remote reading of vital peripherals, mental wellness programs and crises intervention.

By focusing on a holistic approach to crew welfare, it provides a total healthcare solution for physical and mental health, diagnoses, and mitigation of chronic, routine and emergency medical needs, strategies for overall health and wellness, and crisis communications as needed.

Vasilis Xerotagaros, HSQE Manager for Gourdomichalis said 'The welfare and wellbeing of our crews is taken extremely seriously in our company and we are pleased to be able to offer these enhanced healthcare services across our fleet. We are very happy to be working with our long standing partner, Navarino, on delivering these services.'

"We hope this will help to provide our staff at sea with the peace of mind that comes from knowing that there is now an extra layer of care and protection for them in case they need it"

Vasilis Xerotagaros, HSQE Manager

Katerina Liaki, Navarino's Vikand Account Manager added 'We are very proud of our partnership with Vikand and the mental boost that their solutions can provide to seafarers, who are so often far from comprehensive medical services on the oceans. Vikand really helps make a difference and I look forward to supporting Gourdomichalis and the welfare of their crews.'



Spectrum Version 1.0 brings new functionalities and enhancements

This Quarter we are excited to announce the introduction of Spectrum Version 1.0, which brings some major new functionalities to our RMM platform.

Firstly, we have added a User-sourced application library. This means that users can now upload their own applications to the Spectrum application library for centralized deployment within Spectrum. For example, users can now centrally install their ERP software into Spectrum and mass deploy it to all computers onboard, removing the need to download such applications to each PC manually.



Furthermore Spectrum now has Windows Feature Upgrade functionality, which introduces the ability to easily upgrade to the latest build of Windows across your fleet. And finally, version 1.0 has also introduced a range of stability fixes, including faster load times.

[Discover Spectrum's application library!](#)

Navarino Annual Event 2024

In March, Navarino held our spectacular annual staff event in Athens at the beautiful Anassa City Events Venue. Every year, we bring our whole team from across the world together to look back on the previous year's achievements and results, and also to look ahead at our business strategy for the coming 12 months.

CEO Dimitris Tsikopoulos presented our 2023 numbers and we were all delighted to hear that it was one of Navarino's most successful years ever in terms of growth. Both our connectivity and technology services performed really well and this puts us in a great position to carry this forward momentum into 2024.



Co-Founder Panos Tsikopoulos looked at some of the really impactful CSR projects that Navarino has supported over the last year, including several projects aimed at helping those most in need as well as environmental actions in Europe, Latin America and beyond.



Then there were our traditional annual event activities that take place every year, including the pita cutting and the appointment of Navarino's Citizen of the Year Award, which is voted for by our entire staff and which elects the person who best represents our values – this year the very worthy winner was our Head of Projects, Andreas Louras and we were all really pleased to see him win!



Following the presentations, in the evening we all headed to Riviera Coast for an absolutely brilliant staff party by the sea – where we got to celebrate our successes in the company of our dear colleagues and look forward to making 2024 another record year for our company. A big thank you to all our staff for their work over the last 12 months. We succeed because of our people, and we are very proud to count each of you in our Navarino family!



*Andreas Louras, Head of Projects
Winner of our 2024 Citizen of the Year award.*