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USA. Mad Mariner introduces video Docking Game

Thursday, 21 February 2008

Mad Mariner, a leading online resource for independent reviews and in depth articles on boating, has announced the official release of The Docking Game, an Internet-based video game that allows boaters to practice and test their skills in a variety of marinas and conditions.

Featuring more than 20 different levels of difficulty, The Docking Game allows players to pull into floating docks, t-heads, polls and finger piers, as well as several other configurations modeled after real-life marinas. Designed by recreational boaters for recreational boaters, Mad Mariner's Docking Game is intended to help captains become more familiar with techniques for docking safely in tight quarters and other challenging settings. It offers a choice of three boat-types, including power and sail. Players use keyboard arrows to navigate their vessel to a dock, while avoiding hazards such as other boats, buoys and shallow water. While playing, boaters also encounter realistic conditions such as gusting wind, waves, currents, traffic, darkness and even marine life, all of which add to the level of difficulty.

"Docking is arguably one of the toughest things we boaters do," said Glen Justice, founder of MadMariner.com. "Practice certainly helps. Our game allows players to navigate different types of marinas in a variety of unpredictable situations in an effort to make on-the-water docking more familiar and less stressful."

Mimicking the variable conditions encountered on the water, no two sessions of The Docking Game are alike. Players can track their improvement and save high scores. While truly effective docking practice requires captains to get behind the helm of a real boat, Mad Mariner's Docking Game offers boaters a fun and easily accessible way to keep piloting and situational awareness top of mind, resulting in increased skills and safer boating.

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