



A Remote Monitor Option for HYPACK®

By Harold Orlinsky

I tested a relatively new device on the market today, a small 7-inch USB monitor from Lilliput. There are a few other USB monitors out there, but I found this one for \$99 and wanted to see how well it works.

The monitor needs no external power. It uses the USB cord to the computer to get the data and power. They even included a jumper USB connection if your computer port doesn't provide enough power from a single plug. On my machine, it worked just fine with a single plug.

The screen has a 32-bit display for color and 800 x 480 resolution. I ran it as a helmsman display and then just as a left-right indicator to see how useful it would be on board a boat. The display is decent and, running HYPACK® SURVEY, all the windows can be seen clearly.

I tested to see how well it worked outside, and in direct sunlight and it was actually clearer than my laptop monitor. It's not waterproof, so if you have any ideas of running it in the rain, it might not last too long without some type of protective cover.

The video software that comes with the monitor allows for user configuration; you can rotate the display left, right or upside down, so you are not limited in any special mounting configuration. The display can be similar to an external monitor – extending your desktop or making a copy.

The only part I did not like was the USB cable provided with the system. It's a standard USB cable, but only 2 feet long. An extension cable would be needed onboard a boat to make the monitor useful. As with USB devices, you can plug in multiple monitors for your displays. The manual says it can work up to 127. I'm not going to test that.

FIGURE 1. *USB monitor and Laptop Computer*

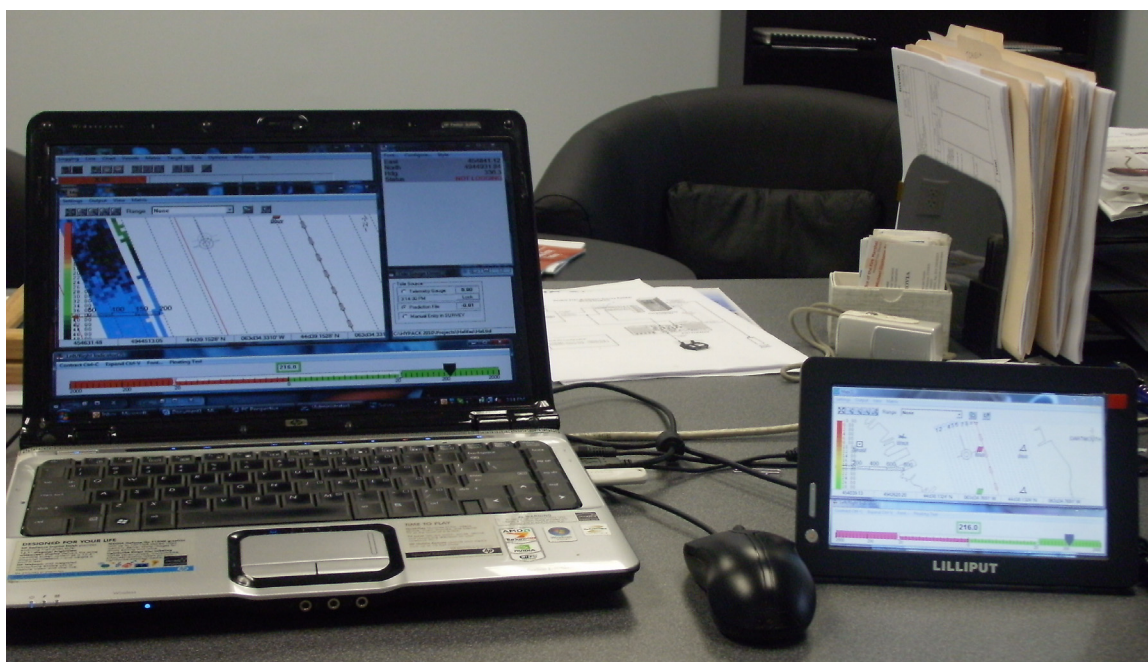


FIGURE 2. Screen Configured with HYPACK® SURVEY Map Window and Left-Right Indicator



FIGURE 3. Display Configured for the Left Right Indicator and Logging Status

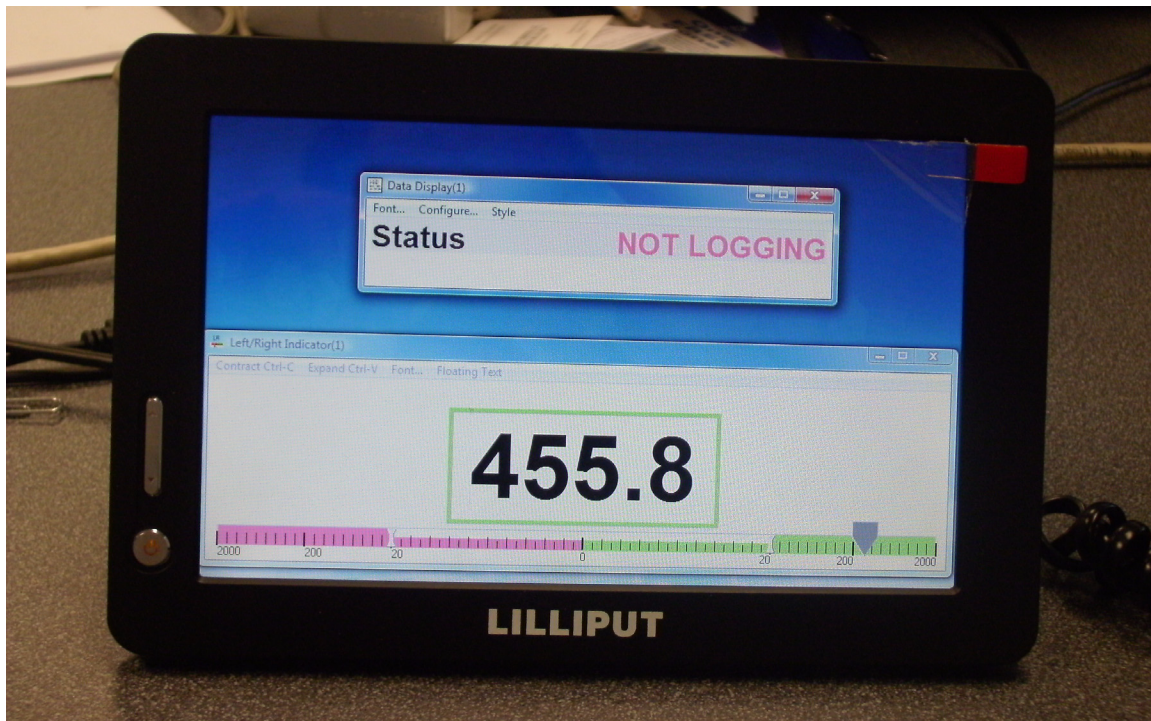


FIGURE 4. *The system is small, measuring only 1 inch in width.*

