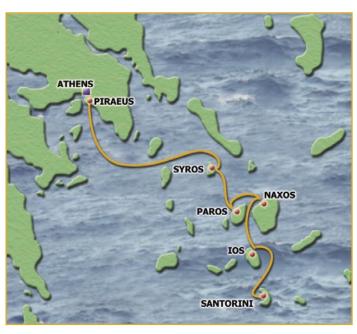


7: EGNOS BRINGS NEW SAFETY STANDARDS TO THE AEGEAN



The Course of the Ship's Voyage

GNOS trials in the Aegean Sea demonstrate potential safety benefits, and stimulate interest from Greek government ministries.

Ktimatologio and ESA conducted an EGNOS trial on the "Blue Star Aegean" in March 2001 in the framework of the European Commission's GALA project.

The aim of the trials was to identify and demonstrate an accuracy and integrity performance equivalent to that expected from the future Galileo system. However, EGNOS has the potential to bring significant benefits to maritime users in terms of safety in an area that currently lacks the marine radiobeacon differential GPS systems available in other parts of Europe.

The trial took place on one of the ship's normal voyages, starting at Piraeus (Athens' main port) with visits to Syros, Paros, Naxos, Ios and Thera (Santorini). These trials used the ESTB signal (with the Mediterranean Test Bed stations connected to the ESTB for the first time) in a number of different navigation modes: open sea, coastal approach and port entrance.

This high profile trial stimulated significant interest from a number of Greek government departments as well as the Greek Navy. Detailed results are expected shortly.