

## Citizen Timing/Results

Citizen Timing, a company owned by Citizen Watch Company of America, is the official timer of the America's Cup. That means, in addition to timing the America's Cup Match itself, Citizen is responsible for timing both the Defender Selection Series and Louis Vuitton Cup. It is a formidable challenge, with Citizen having to time up to 6 races on three courses simultaneously. To meet its challenge, Citizen has created a new, high-tech timing system that is flexible and transportable, yet will ensure results and timing information are automatically and immediately available to television viewers around the world.

### Here is how the Citizen system works:

- A WWV radio band frequency originates in Greenwich, England, and sets the time around the world. A transmitter in Fort Collins, Colorado, picks up the radio feed and sends the signal across North America.
- Citizen Timing computers in San Diego are equipped with a WWV computer card, which automatically picks up this time. Similarly equipped computers in the International Broadcast Center (IBC) and on the Race Committee boat count down to race time.
- There are five timers on each course, one on each of the stake boats and one on the committee boat, and the pin end boat. They are equipped with cellular phones.
- As a sailboat approaches the start line or mark, the timer keys in the boat number on the cellular phone. The moment the boat crosses the line or rounds a mark, the timer hits the entry key on the phone, which transmits data instantly to the timing computer 12 miles away in the IBC.
- The IBC computer then calculates deltas (the time difference between boats) and other information, which is displayed on the TV screen and used by broadcasters around the world. Meanwhile, the data is transmitted to the Media Center and used in the results package, as well as for race committee needs.

The Citizen Timing system is critical to linking on-the-water action with TV, which will make the Cup more enjoyable to watch and bring instantaneous results to viewers.