

The Yacht Doctor

April 2010

Volume 3, Issue 2



The Set & Drift

Spring Cleaning too...

Our last newsletter gave you some ideas about how you could start your boat's Spring cleaning. We discussed changing zincs, cleaning heat exchangers, replacing impellers and getting the crud out of your sea strainers. Doing those things will save you some catastrophic grief later on. Imagine being all packed up for that family trip on spring break. Your headed out of the mouth of the harbor and your boat over heats. There you are with three crying kids, a ticked off wife, and the family dog even seems to be giving you the stink eye! Then you are trying to figure out what's giving you a bigger headache, having to call vessel assist, making that emergency call to your mechanic, the kid's complaining, or that piercing look the wife is throwing you. Yikes!

Luckily, Skipper, all that can be avoided by some pre-emptive Spring cleaning. Speaking of which, lets not forget a few other things. For instance, how's your bottom? Bottom paint, that is. Did you know there are two basic kinds of bottom paint, ablative or modified epoxy?

Ablative, also known as self-polishing, is typically found on out-

drives. The paint sloughs off while the boat is under way, taking with it any growth that is collecting. That means that you have to use the boat for it to work properly. If you are using the boat regularly, it is not advised to have the diver scrub the outdrives (unless you have muscles growing all over the outdrives). It will remove the paint faster than needed.

Modified epoxy is a hard paint mostly used on boat bottoms. When properly applied, it prevents hard growth from sticking to the boat. It allows a slime layer to collect on the boat. The slime layer is good and prevents hard growth from penetrating to the boat bottom. When the boat is being used, that slime breaks free, taking with it any hard growth. So if you ever need an excuse to take the boat out, tell the wife you are doing it to save your bottom!

Keeping with the 'bottoms' theme, lets talk about the head. Have you noticed malodorous secretions (a.k.a. stinky smells) emanating from the head? Unless there is a good reason for it, it may be time to install a vent line filter. Continued on page 2.

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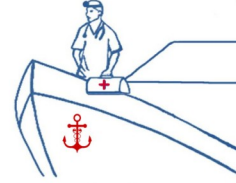
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This filters out the odor that permeates overboard from the holding tank. Odors can also be from a build up in the hoses or seepage from the hoses. Holding tank hoses should be changed every 5-10 years. Most important, remember that holding tanks should be emptied on a regular basis. When it is empty, flush a gallon of vinegar through each toilet to combat build up in the hoses.

We hope that is enough 'bottom talk' to get you off of yours and onto Spring Cleaning. Look for our next newsletter for more enlightening topics or catch up with us on Facebook. Happy Spring....cleaning!

THE YACHT DOCTOR



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(805) 760-7900

www.theyachtdoctor.net

Jason_malcolm@theyachtdoctor.net

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Design a logo

Artwork will be used on The Yacht Doctor truck. Surface area is 12'x3'. Art work must be original—no clip art. Must be transferable onto vinyl. Include company name, phone number and/or web address. Deadline is May 1st.

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