

Bayliss Boatworks: One of the leading builder of custom sport fishing yachts in the country.

## WESMAR, Thruster of Choice for Respected Sport Fishing Yacht Builder

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...Jeff James, Operations Manager Bayliss Boatworks*

When Bayliss Boatworks of North Carolina launched its 73-foot SHARK BYTE in late 2011, founder and owner John Bayliss said: "It used to be that a 65' boat was huge, but with the amount of horsepower now available plus a top-notch hydraulic bow thruster and efficient hull design, we are finding larger boats are still able to fish and maneuver really well."

Bayliss Boatworks Operations Manager Jeff James agrees. "With sport fishing boats getting bigger a strong reliable thruster is a must. The profile of the boat actually acts as a sail in periods of high wind, and the thruster can keep you on track and give an additional peace of mind in many situations."

The top-notch hydraulic bow thruster they describe is a WESMAR Model V2-12, and is one of many Bayliss Boatworks has installed since 2005.

"A thruster is an asset, providing the ability to manipulate your boat relative to wind, tides and momentum when necessary, to ensure an easier docking or exiting experience. In certain fishing scenarios, a thruster can be an invaluable tool in keeping the boat positioned correctly without having to use your propulsion and perhaps adding unwanted pressure on a fish you're fighting.

"Once a captain has mastered the feel and movement of his boat in the water, a thruster can be used in conjunction with motors and rudders to provide

unbelievable maneuverability," says Jeff James.

He knows this first hand from 20 years of charter and tournament fishing experience.

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"The construction of the thruster itself and the

stainless steel propellers not only look good but provide fast, smooth, powerful thrust when needed. Our current builds include four large boats: a 77, 80, 84 and 87-footer. All will use the hydraulic WESMAR thruster systems," says James.

"Bayliss is one of many boat builders around the world using our powerful, all stainless steel dual prop, counter

rotating bow thrusters. Our design provides 40% more thrust yet fits in a tube generally designed for much smaller systems, and the advantage of this is widely recognized," says WESMAR's vice president of the mechanical division, Bob Sentz.

Naval architect Robert Ullberg, Winter Park, Florida, designed the SHARK BYTE and several other Bayliss Boats and is accustomed to the value of WESMAR thrusters, particularly knowing the power-to-space component.



*SHARK BYTE was the thirteenth and largest hull completed by Bayliss when launched. Four larger boats are currently underway at Bayliss .*



## About Bayliss Boatworks

John Bayliss opened Bayliss Boatworks in April 2002, and is considered by many to be one of the most creative and competitive builders of custom sport fishing yachts in the country. He is well known in the industry for his years as a charter captain, and as skipper of the Hatteras demo yacht, and his time on the tournament circuit. This experience has given him a strong appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of both production and custom yachts. Yet he credits his more than 60 employees, highly trained specialists, with the company's success.

He has a crew with expertise in woodworking, glassing, cabinetmaking, electronics and mechanics. Their work is among the finest in the industry. His technicians are experienced in electrical systems, refrigeration, air conditioning, engine hookup, shaft alignment and testing. And a yard crew that specializes in troubleshooting and diagnosing mechanical and electrical problems, handling all carpentry, paint and repower projects and all running gear issues.

The yard's facilities are impressive as well:

- Four construction bays, three for new construction
- A 100-ton Marine Travelift
- Brownell 60-ton remote control hydraulic trailer
- A 45' tall paint-spraying shop and a 12' by 40' small parts paint booth, separate from the dust-producing construction process
- A 4000-sq-ft cabinet shop for building custom interiors, including an interior finish spray booth.
- Complete metal shop for fabricating stainless steel and aluminum brackets and parts
- A three-level workshop with redundant tool sets and smartly designed storage rooms increase efficiency, enabling employees to devote more time to the creative process of building custom boats
- Full service mechanical and yard shop
- Full service Marine Store with over 2000 items in stock, in addition to a complete assortment of stainless steel fasteners and other essentials.



Bayliss Boatworks  
600 Harbor Road  
Wanchese, NC 27981  
Tel: 252.473.9797  
Fax: 252.473.9922  
[www.baylissboatworks.com](http://www.baylissboatworks.com)