

Stabilizer Customer Report

“WESMAR Stabilizers Have Expanded Our Boating Horizons”

“Having the Stabilizers after 25 years of boating, has opened new horizons for us” say Dave and Barbara Carlson after their first trip with their WESMAR Roll Fin Stabilizers on board their 43-foot Albin, the MY Airwave.

This is our third trip cruising from Rhode Island to our second home on the east coast of Florida. This year our 3.5 week trip was much more comfortable, thanks to the Stabilizers,” said Dave.

“We had some turbulent times coming through the Inland Waterways and the stabilizers really helped. For us some of the most violent rocking comes when a faster boat passes us, and the stabilizers have corrected that.”

Carlson is a mechanically savvy retired airline pilot who owned three sailboats before purchasing his 43-foot MY Airwave, so neither he nor his wife were new to boating.

“This is a 20-year-old boat and you might think it is a lot of money to spend on a boat this size and age. Our opinion is they don’t make them like this anymore and replacement value would be between \$350,000 to \$500,000. Knowing that, it made perfect sense to add the stabilizers. In addition, we were familiar with the boat because it was docked next to us for several years. We knew it had been well cared for.

“My wife talked me into the stabilizers, and now that we have them we have done things we wouldn’t have done without them.



The installation of the WESMAR RS400 Stabilizer System (4.5 ft. square fins) on the MY Airwave went smoothly.

This is a whole different boat with a different feel with the stabilizers.

“We travel with the stabilizers on ‘stand by’ some of the time. Normal cruising speed is 8 knots. “Even on standby the boat is more stable. We were expecting some loss of speed because of perceived drag, but there has been none,” said Carlson.

“The stabilizers really do what they say they will. They are easier on the boat, the passengers, the pets on board (they travel with their cat and dog), and easier on the onboard equipment and furnishings.”

Paul Gunn, Northeast sales representative for WESMAR’s New England Distributor, the Hope Group, out of Cranston, Rhode Island, sold the Carlson’s the Stabilizers. Carlson was anxious to add comfort on the trip to Florida, and knew the Stabilizers would help significantly.

Gunn said the Carlson’s were great to work with. “He came into our shop on a Tuesday and we de-

livered the Stabilizers three days later. He installed them himself with some hydraulics guidance from us and some engineering advice from WESMAR. He was very successful, and because of his competency, it went smoothly. He hauled the boat and put the fins in and then had it back in the water in 2 days. Then he did his own inside wiring and connections.”

Gunn said Dave Carlson told him the story of traveling the Inland Waterway down to Florida when a large boat passed them causing a big wake. While the MY Airwave glided comfortably through, the boat behind them did not. Its owner called Carlson on the marine radio to ask him why the MY Airwave was not rocking, like they were.

“He wanted to know what equipment was stabilizing the Airwave. Probably another sale of a WESMAR will result from that.

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That's how these WESMAR stabilizer systems affect people. We get most of our sales by word of mouth or through Customer Reports. This gives the owners of similar boats an opportunity to evaluate the equipment and it is very successful," said Gunn.

Acknowledging his own installation and how well it went, Carlson said: "A big factor in the success I had installing the system was Paul Gunn at the Hope Group and Fred Hogan at WESMAR. There was only one space they could go and I emailed Fred Hogan and Paul Gunn pictures. They had WESMAR engineering look at the photos and approve the location of the Fins. Wesmar was very helpful throughout the installation process.

The Carlson's cruise in comfort. The MY Airwave sleeps 4 to 6, has a complete computer based navigation system, autopilot, bow thruster, communications systems including direct TV, and more. Engine: Single Ford Lehman Engine. Air-conditioned; freshwater system, spacious salon, exceptionally accommodating galley. Electronics: Radar, VHF, GPS, depth finder, knot meter, speed log, compasses, AM/FM Stereo, Windlass.



The installation, done by the owner himself, included a very professional looking console installation.



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