

WESMAR Roll Fin Stabilizers Stop Roll On 48 Foot Hatteras Long-Range Cruiser

“(This Boat) Now Drives Like a Car” Says Owner

Can a yacht's performance improve with age? Hans Leerink thinks so.

After installing a WESMAR RS600 Roll Fin Stabilizer last year he day-dreams while at the wheel-house of his 48-foot long-range Cruiser, the MV Dutch Master, a vessel he's proudly navigated in the Caribbean Sea for 15 years. Now the choppy waters of the Caribbean seem like a mirage as his boat rides flat across boundless waves. Smooth pavement sits ahead as Captain Leerink skillfully maneuvers his luxury yacht across choppy seas.

“It drives like a car,” says Leerink, as he recounts the installation and performance of his new found cruise control device.

WESMAR Sonar Leads to Stabilizer

Leerink had the RS600 installed on the Dutch Master last July in Trinidad, where he parks his Hatteras. “My wife and I spend the winters on the yacht cruising...The Caribbean has beam seas caused by the trade winds from the east. They produce some healthy rolling, [so] we've traveled in a lot of 6 to 8-foot seas and they can get to 12-foot on the beam with water on the side deck.” WESMAR roll fin stabilizers and the comforts they deliver are perfectly designed for cruising yachts like Leerink's Hatteras. His vessel features a pilothouse adorned with a majestic fly bridge on top that rises high above the water's surface. This design

makes the boat vulnerable to heavy winds and tottering seas.

Leerink purchased a WESMAR RS600 after combining rigorous research with personal experience. With a GPS, depth sounder, computer, water maker, chart plotter, and other key instruments onboard, Captain Leerink focused on comfort early last year. “My wife has a cast iron stomach but the rolling was very uncomfortable for me.” After hearing wonderful reports about the RS600 he remembered something from his past. “When he purchased the Dutch Master from its original owner there was a WESMAR sonar onboard. It was a wonderful piece of equipment: I knew personally that WESMAR made a good product.”

Expert Assistance

A call to Bob Sentz of WESMAR directed Leerink to D.S. Hull, a Florida marine dealer known for quality service. Bob Leatheman of D.S. Hull helped him make an appointment with noted installation expert Franz Maingot, who manages KNJ Marine Services, a full-service marina located within fifteen-acre Pake Yard Services on Chaguaramas Harbor in the West Indies. “We do everything, from A to Z,” says Maingot, who oversees 38 employees. The firm outfits nearly 400 boats a year. Numerous satisfied clients, like the Leerinks, leave their vessels in storage during off-season in this beautiful corner of the world. Maingot and his crew are renowned

for their attention to detail, whether the job requires customization or yacht improvements.

“I think Hans wanted a stabilizer about ten years ago,” says Maingot. “I recommended the WESMAR when he was shopping last year. He was very happy with the results. I installed a WESMAR unit previously and I knew the product was good...an easy installation.”

The process of outfitting the stabilizer was as smooth as the ride. “The whole purchase and installation were easy from start to finish,” says Leerink.

“It's incredible how the stabilizers flatten out the boat,” marvels Leerink after only one season of boating with the RS600. “The performance is really amazing.” A boater since age 16, Leerink sampled his first waves as a young man in Holland. After moving to the United States years ago he retired to Boston and winters in the Caribbean every year for 6 months. The Dutch Master is shrink wrapped and stored on land in Trinidad, ready for pleasure when New England's infamous winter strikes.

“It (the stabilizer) works well in all sea conditions,” says the proud Captain. As December nears, the Leerinks are comfortable knowing they will embark on another season of smooth rides. Sometimes yachts do improve as they age.

