

Stabilizer Customer Report

“We Are Dreaming of Smooth Sailing No Matter What Mother Nature Throws at Us”

Don Cameron is ready to tackle whatever Mother Nature sends his way now that his WESMAR Roll Fin Stabilizers are installed on board his 53-foot Hatteras Motoryacht Christine's Phantom. After the initial sea trials on a 22 nautical mile run across Michigan's Lake St. Clair to Tilbury, Ontario, in a stiff southeasterly, he is confident the boat will ride comfortably even in much larger seas.

“When we backed out of our well in Lake St. Clair, the wind was blowing from the southeast at over 22 mph. I was glad when we pulled out into the blowing rain that my RS-600s were operational. The waves were 3-5 feet and in typical Lake St. Clair fashion there was little space between them, leaving the boat little time to recover from one swell to the next. Once we had the full force of the wind on the boat and were on course; the wind was hitting us about 20 degrees off the starboard bow.

“With the heavy windage the boat had a poor trim attitude, so I used the stabilizers to level the boat. Our guests were amazed at the power of the system, which leveled the ride and got us on an even keel. The system worked hard, keeping the roll to a minimum as we powered through the waves. This was evidenced by the indicator light system on the control panel. We had flashing lights as expected, but very little rolling motion.

The Wesmar system eliminated



The beautiful Hatteras Motoryacht Christine's Phantom travels comfortably with the Wesmar Stabilizer upgrade.

90% of the rolling. Prior to the stabilizers the boat would have been rolling hard, beverage cans flying across the pilothouse, and guests wondering how a “big boat” could roll so much.

Cameron said he researched roll fin stabilizer systems extensively before installing the WESMAR RS600; including three competitive makes. River's Bend Marina of St. Clair, Michigan, installed the fins and glassed in a tunnel for a future bow thruster and Cameron completed all the wiring, hydraulics, and the raw water cooling system himself. He said that gave him a great deal of knowledge as to how the system actually functions, and allowed him to customize his application.

“In my opinion the WESMAR is technologically superior to other systems that are available, and it is very competitively priced. The electronic gyro system is a better design than other systems because the

speed of the electronic signal to the hydraulic system provides a quicker reaction time to the waves. While price was a consideration, the decision was based on technology as well. “The NAIAD system was priced about 25% greater than the Wesmar, but it is not equivalent,” he said.

“The stabilizer system effectively eliminates the rudders as a pivot point while the boat is underway. This results in directional stability, which reduces zigzagging caused by rolling without the stabilizers; this has and will improve the average fuel economy as well. And I experience no more than ½ knot speed loss with the RS600 system, versus without it,” said Cameron.

“We travel in some pretty tough waters, and have been in situations where all the furniture tipped over.

The stabilizers will keep my family ‘on board’ with me. He means that literally.

