

Stabilizer Customer Report

“The WESMAR Stabilizers Made Our Trip Wonderful!”

Mary Hirshfield has been known to fly from Seattle to Canada to join her family on their summer boating trips, just to miss the rocky ride through the Straits of Georgia. Rather than make everyone else uncomfortable, the airplane was a good option. “My family called me ‘chicken of the sea,’” she said.

In August she made her first trip with WESMAR roll fin stabilizers on board the family’s 65-foot sport motor yacht, and she says it changed her boating life. “The stabilizers made our trip wonderful!”

Today she faces marine travel willingly and in comfort, even through the oftenturbulent Straits of Georgia.

Having the comfort of stabilizers only makes sense, particularly when you’re traveling on a gorgeous yacht like MV Lightwave, a 65-foot Cheoy Lee, with all the comforts of a luxurious home. Built by Cheoy Lee Shipyards Ltd. Kowloon, Hong Kong, and represented exclusively by Compass Yachts in Seattle, the Tom Fexas designed yacht is billed as the perfect balance between performance, luxury, comfort, efficiency and reliability.

Her 20-foot beam allows for an exceptionally spacious interior leaving nothing to be desired from the elegant salon and spacious galley to the luxurious master stateroom with twin heads. Nearby are two additional guest staterooms. The vessel is the picture of master craftsmanship and comfort throughout.

The most popular features for Jim Hirshfield are the standup engine room, with extra power and equipment that includes a complete power plant, plus a ventilation system that routes exhaust particulate underwater eliminating residue on



The MV Lightwave at home on Lake Washington (top); Mary Hirshfield at the helm, left, and Jim Hirshfield in his favorite spot, the engine room.

the hull. They also enjoy the walk-around decks, and comfortable and roomy fly bridge.

For Mary the most popular feature is the WESMAR roll fin stabilizer system.

One of the first trips after installing the WESMAR stabilizers was a return to Desolation Sound (through the Straits of Georgia) for four weeks of gorgeous scenery, secluded anchorages, fine fishing, abundant wildlife, friendly marinas and beckoning beachcombing. They

traveled as far north as Port McNeil at the entrance to the Queen Charlotte Islands on the north end of Vancouver Island.

It was during the return trip from Port McNeil down the Johnstone Straits and inside to Dent Island when the power and comfort of the WESMAR stabilizers made their mark on Mary. “Lightwave encountered the first major storm of the season, battling 30-35 mph winds, and 5 to 6 foot seas. People

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were pulling in because of the winds, but we were able to keep traveling in relative comfort," she said. We went south through the Johnstone Straits and inside the islands and stayed overnight."

They said the Dent Rapids, near max ebb presented some challenges. "They were not our first choice, but we were running to find a place for the night in not so good weather. The boat traveled beautifully with the stabilizers. We also progressed through Gilliard and Yaculta Rapids the following day with hardly a notice under slower running waters. Even at home on Lake Washington it's nice for our guests that we have the stabilizers to counter wakes," said Mary.

Thanks to onboard computers, satellite phones and TV hook up, the Hirshfields are able to keep in touch with business requirements. MV Lightwave is named for fiber-optic communications technology. It's related to marketing high-speed data, the technology that grew the business the Hirshfields were in for many years before 'retiring' to a life that includes more frequent yachting right from the dock of their lake front

home in Bellevue, Washington.

They are no strangers to boating or boats. In addition to being boat owners of many years, Jim spent time in the Merchant Marine and served in the Navy as an officer of the deck on a destroyer. His opinion of the WESMAR stabilizers, "It's a utility that, for the dollars, anybody buying a large boat should have."

They also have a WESMAR bow thruster on board, which makes the boat easy for just the two of them to handle. "The bow thruster works well. It allows me to control the bow while using the mains to move the stern."

Dave Swanson of Northwest Yacht Repair in Seattle did the installation and the sea trials on both the stabilizer and the thruster and said they performed extremely well. "People love the stabilizers and the thrusters," said Swanson, who personally has installed 8 or 9 pair of WESMARs. "I'm sold on WESMAR products because of the great support we receive; it's a local product, and they have the best electronics. We do work on other brands, but in terms of new installs we always spec WESMAR. The stabilizers on

Lightwave are the 600 series with 6 square foot fins. The bow thruster is a 25 horsepower WESMAR.

What's ahead in cruising for the Lightwave? Next year the Hirshfields will take her around Vancouver Island, and after that, Alaska.

Other power and comfort features include:

- Two 3406 800 HP Catepillar Engines
- Watermaker
- Twin Northern Light 20 KVA Generators
- WESMAR Bow Thruster
- WESMAR Roll Fin Stabilizers
- 110 lb Bow Anchor
- Central Vacuum System
- 3 Staterooms
- 5 Heads
- Elect. Control on Engine
- On-board Computer
- 14' Tender with Nautical Structures Davit
- 40 gallon Hot Water Heater
- Heat Pump, HVAC – Marine Air Systems, Air Cond.
- 14 8 D Size Gel Cell Batteries



The 65-foot luxury yacht MV Lightwave, built by Cheoy Lee Shipyards and represented by Compass Yachts in Seattle, is a picture of fine craftsmanship and comfort throughout.



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