

# Fantastic Results With WESMAR Stabilizers On High Speed Luxury Sportfisher

Elegance radiates throughout the 92-foot Lanakai II, a stylish custom built Sportfisher with the finest appointments and equipment on board.

From its home port in Auckland, New Zealand it is used for deep-sea fishing, bottom fishing and cruising and guests and crew travel in the comfort of elegant and practical comfort in the four large staterooms and two crew cabins. Power comes from two 1400 hp Caterpillar 3412s.

The boat was built by Austral Yachts Ltd. and launched in Whangarei NZ in December 2002 and the Skipper is Patrick Foot is one of the more experienced Captains.

The story of the luxurious Sportfisher, Lanakai II, is unique because the boat is described by Captain Foot as very stable, high-powered, and of high speed. With all this comfort and elegance there was a desire for more comfort while traveling in rough seas and the owners and Captain Foot began to look at Stabilizer systems. They chose WESMAR and they say the results have been 'fantastic!'

Captain Foot said, "the owners of the Lanakai II are much happier, as the vessel is considerably more comfortable than before the WESMAR stabilizers."

The vessel's speed presented an issue for some stabilizer manufacturers, however, it was of less concern with the WESMAR design, which uses a dual cylinder



actuator that distributes the load over two cylinders, providing more power during high hull speeds. The WESMAR system on the Lanakai II uses 9 square foot fins.

"We were concerned about the loss of top-end speed since stabilizers were not in the original design brief," said Foot. "When we relaunched with the WESMAR stabilizers onboard, the Lanakai II did exactly the same original maximum speed at a heavier weight when timed on the measured mile."

Within ten days of the one-hour sea trial, the Lanakai II sailed 1185 miles to Fiji where the vessel cruised for six weeks before returning to its homeport in Auckland, New Zealand. "That was 4400 miles in seas to 4.5 meters. We had no teething problems and the level of comfort was fantastic! The WESMAR stabilizers faultlessly outperformed my expectations," said Captain Foot.

"The beauty about WESMAR fins

is that the components are of a manageable size, which helps in a retrofit situation like the Lanakai II. This greatly assisted in installation in an already built vessel. The shaft assembly, for example, is installed from under and outside the hull instead of having to be taken through the interior of the vessel in very confined quarters and risking damage to the interior. Believe it or not we actually fitted the entire stabilizer through a draw in the Owner's stateroom of 24 by 10 inches. This would have been impossible if the shaft was attached to the actuator as with some of the other systems we investigated," said Foot.

Why did they need the stabilizer? "The Lanakai II is very stable with a large metacentric height (GM); however, the rolling was a little lively for a few people. A sign of stability is a quick roll, said Foot.

