

Thruster Customer Report

The Ultimate Bow Thruster Test

Two Trips a Day, 360 Days a Year In Rough Water!

The Ultimate Ferry Ride: Maui to Molokai

Hundreds of passengers a day ride the Maui Princess, the Molokai Princess or the Lahaina Princess. They are ferry boats/sight-seeing boats that travel from Maui to Molokai and back and from Molokai to Maui and back, each day, accommodating the inter-island transportation needs of locals and visitors of Hawaii.

When you own and operate the largest boats on Maui and you advertise them as "Maui's big, fast and comfortable boats," you want to make sure you can dock smoothly and comfortably. That's where bow thrusters come into play. This is how Dave Jung, Manager of Island Marine Activities, the company that operates the boats, and Captain of one of them as well, describes the value of bow thrusters. Jung says the WESMAR Thrusters have been both reliable and dependable since they installed the first one in 1986.

Each of the three vessels travel twice per day in the sometimes very rough waters between the islands. The 90-minute trip at 25 knots in 4-8 foot seas is a good test for ruggedness.

"The WESMAR Bow Thrusters have been great. We work them every day and they are reliable and work extremely well," says Jung. "They log a lot of wear and tear in rough water, and have done the job."

The first WESMAR Bow Thruster went on the Lahaina Princess the



The elegant, 118-foot Maui Princess, ferries passengers twice daily between Maui and Molokai, docking and departing with the help of a rugged, dependable WESMAR bow thruster.

smaller passenger ferry only, that uses an electric DPC thruster. The second and third installations are on the Maui Princess and the Molokai Princess.

Jung, who described his boats are similar to the Canadian Victoria Clipper cruise ships, said the addition of the bow thrusters opened up extra docking options for them. "With them they were able to dock at locations that otherwise were too narrow."

"Bow thrusters also provide an additional level of safety on a twin engine ship, in case one of the engines were to fail." He said he hopes to add another boat to the fleet. It will be built in Lahaina, and "yes" it will have a WESMAR bow

thruster. The Molokai Princess is a 100 foot long and U.S. Coast Guard approved for 149 passengers. The Maui Princess is a highspeed 118-foot luxury touring yacht designed for maximum passenger comfort. She is also U.S. Coast Guard approved for 149 passengers. Both ferries have spacious open air observation decks, snack bars, and cocktail lounge.

The Lahaina Princess is a 65-foot fiberglass motor yacht, built in Florida in 1991 and cruised to Hawaii through the Panama Canal.



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