

Severe Winter Weather Doesn't Slow 'The Bow Thruster Cowboy'

"Only the WESMAR DC Pro has this power...and no one else has the variable speed and continuous operation capability."

Gary Sorensen, Marine Control Systems

A few years ago Power and Motoryacht Magazine wrote an article about Gary Sorensen and called him the Bow Thruster Cowboy. The handle still fits. Sorensen is a marine installer, who leaves his home in the Carolina Mountains traveling wide distances to install bow thrusters on luxury yachts, year around. Severe weather conditions don't slow him down. He did two installations last winter in the Great Lakes area to ensure his anxious yacht owners had WESMAR's new 23 horsepower DC Pro installed in time for yachting season.

"The owners of one of the yachts, a 70 foot Azimut, wanted a DC bow thruster with more power for cruising in the Great Lakes. They wanted to replace their inefficient 5-year-old, 10-inch, 10 HP system (by another manufacturer) that had come with the boat in 1998.

"You could hardly see the boat move with that system," said Sorensen. They contacted me after seeing the WESMAR 12-inch 23 HP DC Pro at the Ft. Lauderdale show in November. They needed a system with the power to move their, high profile yacht, and they knew the WESMAR would do the job."

Sorensen said it was the size and power of the new WESMAR that led to its installation. Similar circumstances led to a second installation he finished recently on a 53-foot DeFever. "WESMAR has the only 23 hp DC system on the market, plus it has

the variable speed capability giving the Captain the ability to apply the appropriate amount of power depending on wind and other conditions.

"No other manufacturer has this power in a DC system and no one else has the variable speed and continuous operation capability."

"We put the system on the Azimut built yacht working in a dry dock building heated to 55 degrees in Sheboygan, Michigan, when it was -22 degrees outside."

He traveled there with his specially equipped trailer, which is essentially a traveling installation and repair center. The installation went very well, according to Sorensen. He said conditions were crowded in the building but he was able to work around them. "My trailer provides me the ability to do everything right on location, including all the wiring, fiberglass work, even build hoses and hydraulic systems.

"WESMAR provides good information and a very solid product. I replaced the existing tunnel on the Azimut, did all the wiring, fiberglass work, and installation. Without the WESMAR DC system he said his only option would have been to install a hydraulic system, which would have been much more expensive and more difficult because of the location of the generator.

His services are in such demand he is installing year around. He provides sales, service, parts and installations for WESMAR's bow and stern thrusters and represents a steering systems manufacturer as well. Most of his business comes from manufacturers and from his website site: www.marinecontrolsys.com.



