

## "The Price Was Right" Says WESMAR Bow Thruster User

No boat named Impetuous should arrive at a slip, dock, or final destination gingerly.

After knifing through waters teeming with sudden and forceful energy the 76-foot MV Impetuous used to sidle up to its port of call.

Now with a WESMAR bow thruster on call, Captain Craig Rutkae navigates Impetuous in a fashion that matches its name. Heaving waves and dockside waiting do not impede the progress of the yacht as it effortlessly maneuvers into place. The thruster is forcefully impulsive as it delivers Impetuous to its destination.

Rutkae and his wife are on the water and on the move eleven months of the year. Their lives sound romantic, but that is your conclusion before you comprehend the detailed maintenance and management a 76-foot yacht requires. With over twenty years of experience the Rutkae's know that spending more money does not automatically make their jobs easier. When new technology is available they perform a simple cost-benefit analysis: is a performance upgrade worth the cost? In other words, can the upgrade be simulated without adding new equipment



or by implementing a slight adaptation?

When WESMAR's continuous duty DC bow thruster was considered, the cost analysis was simple.

"The price was right," says Craig Rutkae. "It was an easy decision."

Impetuous received its new thruster in May, replacing a previous unit that was not getting the job done. "This yacht is nearly as tall as a 125-foot boat and we have a 4 1/2-foot draft," says Rutkae. Moving efficiently and docking in tough conditions was frustrating. Captain Rutkae was tired of losing power in the middle of a critical boating maneuver. Fortunately, the WESMAR continuous duty thruster is designed to keep running until the battery dies.

Yacht Equipment and Parts (YEP) in Fort Lauderdale per-

formed the installation and the boat never left the water. "We even used the existing tunnel and prop and only had to replace the joystick and put in the new 23-HP motor," says Rutkae. "We didn't even have to pull the boat."

Will the affordable price of modern bow thrusters continue to draw vast numbers of boat owners? "We just watched a 30 or 35-foot powerboat using a thruster with a great deal of power," recalls Rutkae. "(Bow thruster) technology is really affordable for smaller boats and yachts; an affordable add-on."

