

Stabilizer & Thruster Customer Report

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We can all identify with Mrs. Reinertson. Guaranteed comfort is hard to come by, so we try to improve our odds at all costs.

After cruising and sailing with her husband Tom on the Great Lakes for years, she was sure of one thing: rough seas can ruin a good trip. But Arlah Reinertson has learned a valuable lesson, comfort is available at the flip of a switch in the form of a WESMAR Electronic Gyro Roll Fin Stabilizer. Now Tom wonders if she will ever turn the unit off.

“My wife likes our WESMAR stabilizers so much that she even turns them on in calm seas,” he says.

The Reinertsons were novice sailors when they purchased a 40-foot Main Ship in 1992. But they did not waste any time indoctrinating their new vessel to the charms of the Great Lakes. After five great years on the water, they took delivery of the 57-foot trawler Imagine in 1998. The Imagine features three staterooms with queen bunks. The stately yacht sleeps 8 people comfortably and provides everything the Reinertson's seek when cruising for weeks on end.

“We learned a lot in the 5 years before we commissioned the Imagine,” says Tom. “We took the advice of New York City Naval Architect Dave Gear and our chosen designer, Kanter Yachts,



and installed a WESMAR DPC25 HP Bow Thruster, and an RS600, 6 square foot Roll Fin Stabilizer. Both sources were very complimentary of WESMAR products.”

“We put our WESMAR Bow Thruster to good use on our first cruise with Imagine,” said Tom.

“I distinctly remember pulling into a small marina on the Canadian side of Lake Huron one time when there was just barely enough room to get our boat positioned to head in bow first. Then the dockmaster came running up and told me I had to come in with the stern to. Honestly, without the bow thruster, I couldn't have done it.”

But after using the Imagine from last May to October on Lake Superior, the Reinertsons can confirm that their new stabilizer captured their interest immediately.

After picking up their new vessel at

Kanter on Lake Erie, they proceeded to make the five week, 1000-mile journey back home to Lake Superior. “We hit some nasty weather and we were pleased with how much the stabilizers took the rolls out. Unlike the ocean, where the rolls are generally smoother and kinder and gentler, in the Great Lakes the rolls are short, steep, and really jerky,” says Tom.

“During one stormy day, the weather service reported 7-foot seas. The rolls were very steep and we chose this time to test the stabilizers. So we started with them off and the turbulence was so great that a drawer broke off the hinges. As soon as the stabilizers were turned on, the rolls were shut down so much we no longer had to be on our hands and knees.” Is it any wonder why Arlah tries to keep the stabilizers on at all times?



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