

WESMAR's Focus Beam Sonar System Continues to Impress

Norway fishermen could not wait to report their success

WESMAR Focused Beam Sonars have been making a tremendous impact on fishing vessels across the world during 1998. The system's specially designed transducer array selectively fires sound energy into a narrow beam for an astoundingly sharp picture, as witnessed by fishing crews around the world who are using the WESMAR Focused Beam to perfection. Record catches have been reported in several of the globe's most popular fishing havens.

After successfully introducing the 110 kHz and 45 kHz units, WESMAR recently completed the Focus Beam family with an amazing 27 kHz long-range, low-frequency system. According to fishermen who recently began using the WESMAR HD800-27 off the coast of Norway, their new longrange sonar has been valuable.

The new 27 kHz system is taking narrow beam technology to a new level of greatness. The magnificent 90-foot seiner Boanes Hav is one notable example. After recently having a 27 kHz unit installed by Flatoy Electronics in Norway, the owners of the vessel and their crew used their new sonar immediately for Herring fishing. After only two weeks, they were so excited with the performance they called WESMAR Regional Sales Manager Bob Bushey to share their enthusiasm.

"They reported seeing; small Herring schools at 1200 meters," says Bushey. "The boat is owned by three brothers, two of whom work the boat full time and a third who teaches school. After witnessing the Focus Beam unit in action they called their brother so he could notify WESMAR immediately of their success.

Were the crew of the F/V Boanes Hav impressed with the range of the 27 kHz version?

"Yes. They even reported picking up the leg of an oil rig at an incredible 3,000 meters during initial use," said Bushey.

The F/V Boanes Hav is a marvelously planned vessel. A 90-foot net seiner, the vessel was built according to drawings by Vik & Sandvik Skipstekniske konsulenter of Fitjar. Painting a striking picture on the water, the vessel only contains equipment recommended by experienced fishermen in Norway.



Below main deck is a fore peak tank, sonar/thruster room, a hold for ice on fishing equipment in center, three RSWcooled tanks and engine room. On work deck, an MMC vacuum pump featuring piping from RSW-tanks, an RSWplant of 480000 kcal, net clearing gear and even ice makers with a capacity of 3.5t ice from seawater per day are featured. Ample storage areas for seine on the starboard side and nets on the port side join seemingly unlimited deck equipment including a draining bin, fish pump, a net stacker aft of 2.5t/6.5m and a knuckle arm crane of 2.5t/8m. A Rapp Hydema Maxinett HMN 30 net hauler and two seine winches of 13t each join the other equipment on the deck. A powerful Caterpillar 3512TA series B of 1119 kW, coupled via Finnoy gear (ratio 6.53:1) to a 2500 mm, fourbladed propeller from the same supplier power the Boanes Hav to faraway fishing destinations. The owners only wanted the best equipment on their magnificent vessel, and their ability to choose top-flight products shows.

As the WESMAR Focus Beam family grows, fishing improvement continues to climb to unbelievable levels of efficiency and distance. HD800-27 should be a magic quotient for fisherman seeking long-range fishing efficiency for years to come. As more and more elite fishing vessels like the Boanes Hav seek to outfit their vessel or upgrade their equipment to long-range sonar, WESMAR's Focus Beam Sonars will be popular.

