

WESMAR Sonar Pays For Itself—Yet Again!

Mr. Alvin Lim is the owner of Ace Fishing Company in Bacolod in the Philippines. Ace Fishing is a family business that in the past operated small trawlers. In early 2001, the Lim family decided to expand the fishing fleet to include purse seiners for sardines, which is found in abundance in the waters off the Visayas.

Instead of buying another used purse seiner, or having someone else design it for him, Lim used his training as an aeronautical engineer to design his own vessel. Not only did he accomplish this, he had it built by his own in-house staff. It was at this stage that Lim was introduced to the WESMAR HD800 sonar by Mr. Jomar Medrocillo of Rope Systems (WESMAR's dealer in the Philippines). By August 2001, his new purse seiner, Neptune 7, was completed and commenced fishing operations.

The skipper, or maestro as they're called in the Philippines, Wilfredo Bansag, learned how to use the WESMAR to increase his catch. He has been averaging 5-6 tons of sardines daily, which is above average for vessels in the Visayas area. On occasion, he has managed to catch between 20 and 30 tons of sardines. He attributes these catches to the WESMAR HD800 sonar; without it he would not have seen the fish. Bansag can even detect schools of fish 800 to 1,000 meters out.

He once tried to catch a very large school of fish that was too much for his net to hold causing it to burst. In his own words, Lim says, "The WESMAR sonar sees more fish than I can catch—it pays for itself."

The results have spoken for the sonar and have convinced Lim that his next boat, which will be bigger than the last, will have a WESMAR sonar onboard.

