



Straight Line Marine Awarded ABS Shaft Cladding Certification

Only Machine Shop in Florida to Receive Certification in this Critical Area of Yacht Maintenance

Monday, October 24, 2011 - Fort Lauderdale, Florida – Straight Line Marine, a division of High Seas Yacht Service, today announced the completion of the ABS Shaft Cladding Certification for Aquamet 22 Stainless Steel marine propeller shafts. Straight Line Marine is the only company in the state of Florida certified to perform cladding repairs on stainless steel marine shafts. Certification of other shaft materials is in process.

American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) classifies vessels for design, materials, safety and construction methods. When a vessel is in “class” it remains under ongoing scrutiny for higher standards of quality control and inspection by ABS surveyors during service and maintenance periods. ABS is one of the major classification societies in the world.

Shaft Cladding, also known as weld-over, is a machine shop process for repairing propeller shafts that are worn or pitted due to crevice corrosion. The process replaces the worn or pitted shaft surface with new, welded material that is machined and polished back to original shaft specifications.

Crevice corrosion is a common problem on vessels with stainless steel marine shafts that are not run often. Stagnant water in tight, crevice locations such as the bearing, stern tube or shaft seal on the shaft changes the chemical properties of the water and reacts to stainless steel. The warm water in Florida further accelerates the process. A crevice corrosion pit or excessive wear in a shaft seal or bearing area can be a major problem. Seals will not seat properly and leak while bearings wear out quicker due to the sharp edges of the pits.

“The whole team is proud of this accomplishment,” stated Chris Brown, owner of Straight Line Marine and High Seas Yacht Service. “The ABS certification and testing process was rigorous and holds machine shops who receive the certification to the highest level of standards. This is a testament to the quality and skill of machinist Chris Zylka who runs Straight Line Marine.”

“We have been performing shaft cladding for over 10 years – gradually refining the process,” comments Chris Zylka, manager and a 28 year veteran machinist. “Now mega-yachts that are ABS Class can have their shafts repaired without shipping them out of state. This is a huge time and cost savings for our customers during their haul-out period.”

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Straight Line Marine is a dedicated running gear machine shop. We have the ability to straighten shafts up to six inches in diameter and perform shaft cladding (weld-over) if there are any signs of crevice corrosion or other required repairs. We lap and fit propellers and couplers in our machine shop lathe. Straight Line Marine can pick up and deliver shafts to any yard in South Florida and is located on-site at Lauderdale Marine Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

High Seas Yacht Service is dedicated to megayacht running gear service, repair and precision alignments. High Seas specializes in all types of shaft seals, bearings and engine mounts. We perform alignments of engines and struts using the latest Optical Scope and Laser technologies. Laser Deck targeting is also a specialty. High Seas is conveniently located on-site at Lauderdale Marine Center and offers remote services in South Florida.