

## *Ask the Propguy...*

*To Trim or not to trim?....That is the question. It seems that speaking with captains trimming or applying down trim tabs at various times underway give varied results, and this is why.*

*Trim tabs are meant to adjust lateral angle of your vessel, which means side to side. Trim tabs will also help in a following sea for control at slow maneuvering speeds. Tabs will slow you for a slower trolling speed while fishing. The one thing trim tabs will not do is lift your transom (or stern of the boat). Reason being if they did you would have HUGE panels instead of tabs.*

*The principal behind these contraptions is while under way to level the vessel with resistance drag so it can track straight. Think of the keel as a snow ski, if you want to turn on skis you lean to make the ski carve an arc left or right and the rest of the ski follows. If you plane your vessel and level off then add down trim tab on one side it will turn to that side, this maneuver will get you home if you lose steerage or rudder. If the tab lifted your transom you would turn the opposite of the tab applied!*

*Trim Tabs will slow your vessel for trolling at full down to get that extra half MPH for fishing, dragging for the resistance.*

*Do not extend or enlarge your surface area to gain lift, you will bend them or blow the actuator cylinder(s),*

*hydraulic motor or pump or both. When accelerating to gain planning speed keep trim tabs all the way up for least resistance and use for leveling after achieving planning speed. The thrust from your propellers with their down angle from the shafts are what lifts your transom and forces the bow down. Hope this explanation helps you takes time off your planning and burn less fuel at the same time!*

**Come to Wolverine Propeller and see what your boat has been missing! Contact us on the web at [Propguy@ Firststep.net](mailto:Propguy@Firststep.net) or call 866 PROPGUY (776 7489) TOLL FREE to discuss boating issues. We are re-power specialists and drive train repair experts. If you have had a long standing issue that has plagued your vessel, let us use your knowledge of your vessel along with our propeller expertise to get it corrected the first time!**

**May you have light winds and calm seas..PG**