

Ask the PROP GUY....

It's the boat show time of the year and looking at new boats and their new styles and improvements gives the consumer different ideas in upgrading the present vessel or trading up. Anytime you make changes in weight on your present boat or adding options to a new one can have an effect on drive train efficiency.

If you decide to add to your existing boat with such items as solid counter tops, generator or swim platform, the substantial weight added to your vessel may warrant tuning your propellers. Usually extras along with the upgrades are overlooked in the weight computations as we compliment the changes such as stainless steel sinks with counter tops or R.I.B.'s (Rigid Bottom) tenders with motor that can add up quickly. Where these items are installed on the vessel will influence the center of gravity and attitude underway and should be included in your plans.

These same upgrades will also have an effect on the new vessel and warrant the decision to upgrade the power plant to 'haul the mail'. More powerful drive train options also add weight to the same base level boat and will consume more energy. Propellers and the drive units are a starting point for the consumer to achieve maximum efficiency. The O.E.M.'s do a very good job of building a vessel that appeals to a certain range of buyer and try to offer different packages to enhance the boating experience but determining variables such as family size or short trips versus long range can help make you make the best choices for your application. The common denominator is weight, which translates into load. Whichever category applies to your situation being aware of the total package increases your ability to get the most bang for the buck.

Come to Wolverine Propeller and see what your boat has been missing! Contact us on the web at WolverinePropeller.com or call 866 PROPGUY (776 7489) TOLL FREE to discuss boating issues. We are re-power and re-prop 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