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SEAKEEPER™

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HIGH-TECH GYRO ENSURES SMOOTH CRUISING ON OVATION YACHTS

As soon as Jim McLaren, general manager of Orange Coast Yachts in Newport Beach, California, came across the Seakeeper Gyro Stabilization System at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show last year, he knew he had to have it. As a result, McLaren made sure the very first 52 Ovation he ordered from Silverton Marine of Millville, New Jersey for his dealership had the state-of-the-art gyro installed.

"I felt that the Seakeeper Gyro would probably be the most important piece of equipment for boats since the invention of the autopilot and I wanted to explore it more," said McLaren. "It's, at least, the most innovative piece of equipment I've come across in my 50 years in the marine industry."

In fact, Silverton Marine was so impressed with how the advanced Seakeeper performed on their 52 Ovation the company is now offering the unit as an option on its standard equipment list for the entire Ovation line. Supplied by Seakeeper distributor Mack Boring & Parts Company of Union, New Jersey, the revolutionary Seakeeper Model 7000 Gyro uses the principles of gyro-dynamics to exert a powerful righting force that virtually eliminates boat rock and roll.

An entirely new concept in luxury cruising, the 52 Ovation is one of the first production boats to utilize Volvo's triple IPS propulsion system. A standard joystick offers one-handed maneuverability and unmatched

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docking capabilities. Dedicated to constant advancement in design, engineering, manufacturing and the pursuit of value, Silverton recently unveiled its Ovation 55 Sport Yacht at the Miami International Boat Show.

"During the sea trials in Delaware Bay, we used the joystick to rock the boat back and forth," said Silverton technician Rich Karrasch. "Without the gyro it was rough, but once we turned the unit on, it only took 15 seconds for the boat to completely stop rocking. We were all very impressed with how responsive it was."

A control moment gyro, the Seakeeper Model 7000 Gyro spins a forged, high-strength steel flywheel at 10,000 rpm in a near-vacuum to produce an amazing 7,000 Newton meter seconds of angular momentum or righting force. Actively controlled by motion sensors and computer processors, it optimizes torque and is highly effective over a range of conditions.

"We tested the Seakeeper Gyro just outside the entrance of Newport Harbor where there are [meter] swells," said McLaren. "The Ovation was incredibly stable, even at a complete stop. We could have sat there as long as we wanted. The boat didn't rock at all."

Designed for craft up to 18m in length and/or 27,216kg displacement, the Seakeeper Model 7000 Gyro weighs significantly less and has much lower power consumption than comparative products. Larger craft are fitted with multiple units. The compact gyro can be installed as a boat is being built or retrofitted into an existing vessel.

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