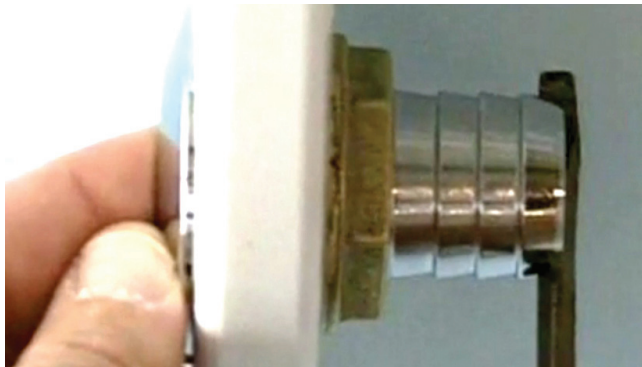


Gear Products



EASIER INSTALLATION

Normally, installing a through-hull fitting takes two people—one outside the hull to brace the flange, another inside to tighten the nut. Marine hardware manufacturer Perko has a better idea. A slot in the inboard end allows the installer to hold the flange in place with the shank of a screwdriver while tightening the nut. The fitting also incorporates bedding grooves to accommodate additional sealant and create a tighter fit. Perko through-hull fittings are castings that come in bronze, chrome-plated bronze or polymer for above-the-waterline use. Each comes in a wide range of hose or pipe sizes, and a choice of flanges, including flat for recessing into the hull. Bronze models start under \$40, polymer versions begin at \$5. Visit www.perko.com.

GYRO STABILIZATION FOR THE LITTLE GUYS

Seakeeper, maker of gyro-stabilizers, has been promising to develop an anti-roll solution for smaller vessels, and now it has. Using the same technology found in more than 2,000 larger Seakeeper installations worldwide, the scaled-down Seakeeper 5 reduces resonant boat roll by up to 90 percent on boats in the 30- to 50-foot range. The unit uses a built-in computer to control a powerful gyro. Spinning in a vacuum environment, it produces powerful righting forces to stabilize the boat. While under way or at rest, the innovative unit dramatically lessens boat movement without exterior fins used by traditional active stabilization systems. Weighing 790 lb., Seakeeper 5 requires 1,500–2,000 watts to operate, depending on sea state. The assembly measures 30 by 30 by 25 inches and costs \$29,900. Visit www.seakeeper.com.



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