

# THORDON HELPING TO CATCH MARLINS IN SPORTFISHING YACHTS

Trying to catch that elusive trophy fish...how many times have fisherman tried to find the reason why they couldn't land the big one. Was it the location? The bait? The line? Or maybe if the boat was quieter? Well today's Captain can have the advantage of a quieter boat...with Thordon propeller shaft bearings.

Noise has always been an Achilles' Heel in sportfishing vessels. One of the common problems is the bearing squealing that can occur when trolling at low speeds with conventional rubber propeller shaft bearings.

As any sports fishing enthusiast knows, a high pitched noise will reverberate for miles under water, chasing the big fish away - especially marlins. What's the solution? For a growing list of yacht builders, refitters and suppliers, the answer is Thordon propeller shaft bearings.

Thordon propeller shaft bearings are fast becoming the bearing of choice in a multitude of vessels from yachts to fisheries research vessels to submarines. "Thordon offers three different bearing grades (XL, SXL and COMPAC) for different sportfishing yacht operating profiles," says Ed Coppedge, Sales Manager of Coppedge Marine of Florida, a long-time Thordon Distributor. "These grades are ideal in propeller shaft applications where low acoustic noise signatures at low speeds and long wear life are critical."

## Major Yacht Builders Agree

"Our customers want smooth, quiet operation at all speeds," says Thomas Glass of Donzi Yachts. A leading builder and restorer of yachts, Donzi is renowned for their serious fishing machines, as well as for pleasure

crafts. The Company was introduced to Thordon COMPAC propeller shaft bearings in 1989 and, due to an exceptional track record of performance, now uses the product in all their models.

"Thordon does not get that high frequency squeal common with rubber bearings at low shaft RPM's," says Glass. But "no squeals" isn't the only reason Donzi relies on Thordon. "When it comes to maintenance, "bearing replacement is not very often, indicating long bearing life."

## Retrofits And Repairs

Jimmie Harrison agrees. As the owner of Frank & Jimmie's Propeller Shop in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, he's been recommending Thordon bearings for over eight years. "We appreciate the benefits... Less friction means the shafts turn more easily and with less horsepower absorbed by the bearing... all the noises seem to be

eliminated... and we are seeing bearing life well in excess of rubber bearings."

There are also speed advantages due to the reduced friction associated with Thordon COMPAC bearings. In fact, Donzi initially installed Thordon on their "Speed Package" before expanding its use into other vessels. "Early on," says Glass, "we noticed there was an increase in RPM's over rubber bearings."

## The Flexible Choice

Thordon and Coppedge Marine, the Thordon distributor in Florida, Georgia and Alabama, can supply semi-finished bearings quickly, in a wide range of sizes to suit even odd-sized housing and shafts. In addition, Thordon SXL rudder bearings, which can run without water or grease lubrication and handle impact loading without permanent deformation, are also available.

Smooth. Quiet. Low maintenance. Everything the sportfishing enthusiasts need to catch the big one. That's the Thordon advantage. **NW**

