

Top Gear

MOORING UP - NIGHTMARE OR NO PROBLEM?

Industry statistics tell us that the average size of leisure craft is getting larger. Owners are looking for more space, more comfort and to cruise further away from their local area. But the owners themselves haven't changed and mooring up hasn't changed either, in fact, it's got more difficult.

Marinas, as well as being crowded to manoeuvre around, have berths that were probably laid out for somewhat smaller craft. Visitor's mooring buoys no longer have strops or pick-up buoys attached because harbour authorities are wary of extending their liability.

These factors pose a problem for leisure craft owners. Getting it wrong risks embarrassment, or worse, damage to themselves or other craft nearby.

Fed up with the dangerous exertions of mooring, two yachtsmen decided to solve the problem. The result was MooR FasT.

The business end of a MooR FasT is a clever device that threads a line through a buoy ring, around a cleat and virtually anything else that you might need to get moored to. Having tied your own warp to the feeder line you simply push the MooR FasT's head at the target until it engages, then pull back and, hey

presto, you're moored.

The product was designed, prototyped and tested based on practical experience and it's ability to work consistently well in a marine environment.

MooR FasT had four objectives:

1. It had to perform well as a single product with as many different types of mooring as possible.
2. It had to be light enough to handle at arm's length so that users could perform the whole mooring operation from inside the safety of their guardrails.
3. It needed to be tough to withstand rigorous use in a marine environment.
4. And, once moored, the means of attachment needed to be as secure as mooring conventionally.

MooR FasT: www.moofast.com



DEK-KING

Wilks, producers of an extensive range of boat and pontoon tendering profiles, have added Dek-King to their range. This range of decking profiles offers an ideal alternative to teak.

Dek-King is a DIY system extruded from UV stabilised PVC and is available in many different profiles including edging and King Plank profiles. Being PVC it can be adhered to the deck, curved with heat and will require virtually no maintenance.

Wilks: www.wilks.co.uk / 01621-869-609

BOOK REVIEW

SAIL RIG AND TUNING

AUTHOR: Ivan Dedelham

PRICE: £13.95

ISBN: 1 898660 67 0

CONTACT: www.fennelbooks.co.uk

REVIEWER: David Greenwood

Some boats are naturally faster than others, but no matter whether she's a cruising boat or racing boat, you'll want your boat to be capable of reaching her optimum speed, to get you from A to B in the fastest possible time.

So here's a book for anyone with a sailing boat no matter whether the boat is a cruiser or a racing machine. The author, Ivan Dedelham, is a sailing instructor with 40,000 nautical miles under his belt, including two Atlantic crossings.

All too frequently books on this subject lose the reader with an overemphasis on aerodynamic theory and scientific detail, too complicated to translate into practical action. This book however, marries theory to practical experience.

It takes you step-by-step through every aspect of sail rig and tuning to help you get maximum speed from your boat in every breeze and on every point of sailing. The lavish illustrations on every page are clear and easy to understand insuring that much of the advice can be acted upon immediately.

This book won't send you off to the chandler's to buy more specialist equipment, instead it'll show you how you can adjust your rigging, mast, sails and sheets to insure that the gear you already own really works for you - no matter whether you're cruising or racing. Read the book, tweak the sails and rigging and you'll get more knots, a real bargain.