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Treatment can lengthen life of paint job

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California-based Sea-Shield has introduced two new after-paint treatment systems to revive and protect vessel paint jobs.

Opinion

"One of the biggest costs to maintain a yacht is in its coatings system," said Francisco Linares, owner of Sea-Shield. "Paint manufacturers are recommending that yachts be painted every four to five years. With paint jobs starting at \$300,000 and getting as high as \$2 million for a yacht in the 125-foot to 200-foot range, that gets expensive, especially during these economic times."

The Sea-Shield line of products was developed by professionals and crew within the yachting industry and includes a polishing system that restores the dull finish on a weathered paint job and a paint protection System that protects the finish of a newly painted yacht.

The polishing system includes three products: Heavy Cut No. 1, Cut and Polish No. 2 and Swirl Remover No. 3. It is used on S/Y Zenji, S/Y Lady B, S/Y Ethereal, M/Y Diamonds are Forever, M/Y Golden Odyssey, M/Y Laura, M/Y Ocean Victory and M/Y Oasis, the company said in a statement.

"As people in this industry know, salt water is probably the worst thing for a boat, and paint jobs are expensive," Capt. Steve Brownsea of M/Y Dumb Luck said in a statement. "Protecting the paint finish when it is new or restoring it to extend the date of the next paint job just makes sense. We've only had to use the Sea-Shield system once in the last two years and our paint job from 2003 still looks great."

The paint protection system includes two products: Nano Coating and Exhaust Guard. When used to the manufacturer's specifications and application schedule, the system protects the paint and can keep the surface looking like new for up to 10 years, the company said.

"We developed a polishing system that provides a barrier against oxidation while burnishing the shine on paint," Linares said. "A paint restoration or protection system can't last forever, so being realistic, we developed a system that can be refreshed fairly quickly and only needs reapplication about once a year."

Sea-Shield products are available in South Florida, San Diego, Spain and the South of France.

The company plans to expand with an automotive line later this year.

For more information, visit www.sea-shield.com.