Galvanic Corrosion
Is Your Boat Protected?

If you don’t know, then it probably isn’t. Any time you have two different metals that are physically or electrically connected and immersed in seawater, they become a battery. Some amount of current flows between the two metals. The electrons that make up that current are supplied by one of the metals giving up bits of itself—in the form of metal ions—to the seawater. This is called galvanic corrosion and, if left unchecked, it quickly destroys underwater metals.

The most common casualty of galvanic corrosion is a bronze or aluminum propeller on a stainless steel shaft, but metal struts, rudders, rudder fittings, outboards, and stern drives are also at risk. The way we counteract galvanic corrosion is to add a third metal into the circuit, one that is quicker than the other two to give up its electrons. This piece of metal is called a sacrificial anode. Most often it is zinc. In fact, most boaters refer to sacrificial anodes simply as zincs. But, there are three types of sacrificial anodes: zinc, aluminum, and magnesium.

Zinc Anodes – perform well in salt and the upper saline levels of brackish waters. Zinc sloughs its consumed metal well and retains constant current throughout its life. In lower levels of brackish and fresh waters, zinc doesn’t have the current output to fully protect, however, partial protection occurs.

Aluminum Anodes – perform well in salt and the upper saline levels of brackish waters. In lower levels of brackish and fresh waters, an aluminum anode can film over by not sloughing its consumed metal which causes passivation and the possibility of a total loss of galvanic protection. Minor maintenance may be required to prevent this from happening.

Magnesium Anodes – Preferred for freshwater. Fresh water use is more prevalent due to the possible “over-protection” that may occur in the less resistant environments of salt and upper saline levels of brackish waters. A reliable anode must be capable of continuously supplying electrical current throughout its life. Improper or unalloyed anodes start off with a high current output which tapers off over time, thus providing insufficient current for long term protection. There are several factors that play into which type of anode to use on any given boat. These include water salinity, water temperature, water speed, metals to be protected, required anode life span, current output, etc. Typical speed and how often the boat is used can make a difference in choosing the proper protection. Changing habits in a boats use can also change the type of anode required for protection. Since electrical currents change every time a boat travels into different waters, there is no absolute value to the corrosion rates of metals so each boat must be looked at individually for the proper protection.

It’s also important to know that according to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), heavy exposure to Zinc and/ or Aluminum at high levels may be harmful to health and the environment so handle carefully. Zinc is now a regulated metal under boatyard permits. So if alternative anodes will work in your situation, please consider them. It may help your boatyard pass the required water sample tests. You can dispose of old zincs in the boatyard zinc barrel.

Finally, there is an unfortunate misconception that a sacrificial anode can be mounted anywhere, even hung over the side on a string, and it will still perform its appointed duty. That is dead wrong! For an anode to provide any protection, it must be in electrical contact with the metal being protected. When an anode is missing or largely wasted away, the metal component it was installed to protect begins to dissolve--guaranteed.

Waterfront Festival
May 30 - June 1

Join us for the 27th Annual Waterfront Festival hosted by the Rotary Club! Proceeds from this event support programs, services, and charitable purposes in the South Snohomish & North King County areas. Gates will open at 3pm on Friday, May 30th and run through the weekend, closing at 7pm on Sunday, June 1st. For more information, please visit edmondswaterfrontfestival.com.

Please be advised that parking in the South lot will be greatly affected due to festival events. During the festival, parking in the North lots will be reserved for permit parking only. The public will be greatly affected due to festival events. Please be advised that parking in the South lot will be greatly affected due to festival events.

Some paperwork is necessary so the Port can confirm agreement between the two parties. If you are planning on being out of your slip for even a short period of a weekend, or even two weeks? If so, consider participating in the loan-a-slip program. During peak season, many visiting boats are looking for overnight moorage. Once the guest moorage areas fill up, Port staff looks for available slips on the other docks to accommodate guests. If you put your slip in the loan-a-slip program by calling Port operations before you leave the marina, we may utilize it to accommodate a visiting boat and credit your account for that daily use. It’s a win for you and for the visiting boater who might not otherwise find available space.

If you are planning on being out of your slip for 1 to 6 months and want to offer your slip for sublease, let us know. You remain responsible for your monthly payment to the Port, and the sub lessee pays you an amount not to exceed the total amount billed to you by the Port. Some paperwork is necessary so the Port can confirm agreement between the two parties and up-to-date registration and insurance of the sub-lessee.

Sea Jazz

Throughout the summer, award winning musicians from the Edmonds School District will be performing in the Public Plaza at the Port. Performances will be every Wednesday (5-7pm) and Sunday (1-3pm) from June 4th to September 17th. There will also be special performances at the Waterfront Festival on May 31st and June 1st from 12 - 4pm and at National Marina Day on June 14th from 10am - 3pm.

Free Vessel Safety Checks

US Coast Guard Auxiliary personnel will be available from 10am through 3pm on the second Saturday of each month, March through October, in front of the Marina Operations office. You can also call for an appointment - Jim Maddox at 206-979-1919 or Dave Church at 206-799-4169.

National Marina Day - June 14

You’re invited to National Marina Day on June 14th at the Port of Edmonds Public Plaza from 10am to 3pm. This event was launched to promote the marina industry and the boating lifestyle. Groups, vendors, and service providers will convey new, innovative, and environmentally sound information. There will be music and food. See you on the water!

Loan-A-Slip & Sublease

Are you planning on being out of your slip for even a short period of a weekend, or even two weeks? If so, consider participating in the loan-a-slip program. Throughout the summer, award winning musicians from the Edmonds School District will be performing in the Public Plaza at the Port. Performances will be every Wednesday (5-7pm) and Sunday (1-3pm) from June 4th to September 17th. There will also be special performances at the Waterfront Festival on May 31st and June 1st from 12 - 4pm and at National Marina Day on June 14th from 10am - 3pm.

Commission Updates

RECAP OF PAST MEETINGS

March 10, 2014
Approval of Revised Strategic & Master Plans
Sea Jazz
Public Launch Project

March 31, 2014
Request for Business Moorage - Jacobsen’s Marine
Approval of Revised Regulation 15: Parking
Approval of Revised Regulation 18: Commercial Work
Emergency Repairs of Broken Marina Waterlines and Pipes
Work Acceptance

April 14, 2014
Annie Crawley - Dive Into Your Imagination
Hart Crowser Lease Report
Public Launch
Website Redesign & Development Services Update
Port of Edmonds Policy Number 3.55.40.05, Information, Technology, and Security
Jacobsen’s Lease/Permit

April 28, 2014
Sea Jazz Performances
Artists in Action
Quarterly Reports

AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

May 12, 2014
TBA

May 27, 2014
Meeting moved to Tuesday in observance of Memorial Day
TBA

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Tenant Rewards

Been a tenant in good standing for 12 months or longer?
• Submit fuel receipts dated 1/14 or later to the Administration office and get a certificate for 1 free day in the boatyard for every 150 gallons of fuel purchased.

Other promotions during 2014 include:
• Bring-a-Buddy. Get one of your buddies to sign-up for moorage or dry storage at the Port. If they mention your name as a referral and both of you stay at the Port in good standing for 12 months, we will credit your account during the 13th month with $200.00.
• The Port is now offering FREE WiFi.

Waitlist Renewal

The Moorage office has sent out the Annual Waitlist Renewal forms to all waitlist applicants. The forms and the $25.00 Waitlist Renewal fee must be returned to the Port by May 31st to maintain your position on the waitlist.

Hands Free Pumpout Adapter

The Port of Edmonds is now offering free pumpout adapters (limited availability, while supplies last) to make pumping out cleaner and easier. These pumpout adapter kits were made available by Washington Sea Grant, and funded by the Clean Vessel Act. Please visit the Marina Operations office today to pick yours up!