In Hull Depth Transducer

Fitting Instructions
Disclaimer

This instruction sheet should be considered a guide only. It is assumed that you have the correct skills and qualifications to be undertaking such installations. Stowe can not be held responsible for any errors or omissions while following this guide. Stowe always recommend using professional boat builders/engineers to carry out or check installations.

Sighting

Before you begin installation it is important to test for a good place to mount the transducer including the following points:

- Single laminate hull. On sandwich hulls it is usually possible to cut away the inner laminate and core, but it is important to carefully seal the remaining core.
- The thickness of the hull should not exceed 12mm

To determine the best place to mount the depth transducer you can do a simple test with the help of a plastic bag filled with water. Connect the depth transducer to the instrument as described in the manual. Place the transducer inside the bag with water and hold the transducer against the hull to see if you can get accurate readings on the instrument.

Installation

It is possible to mount Stowe depth transducers inside a glass fibre hull using one of two methods.

Oil filled Tube

This method usually produces more reliable readings at a greater depth and should be considered for more permanent mounting.
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The transducer may be mounted in hull using a ‘wet box’ made from 65mm PVC pipe and filling the gap between the hull and transducer face with Castor Oil, (Or water can be used temporarily). It is advisable to mount the transducer in such a way that there is a 1-2mm gap between the transducer face and the closest part of the hull. The pipe should be cut to match the hull angle to ensure the transducer is mounted vertical.
Bedding on Filler or Silicone Rubber

Dense fillers such as ‘Plastic Padding’ give slightly better results, but cannot easily be removed. Silicon Rubber is best to use for a temporary fix until the boat can be hauled for proper installation. Note that the depth will only work correctly when the filler has set, which can take more than a day when using Silicon Rubber.

It is important to ensure no air is trapped between the transducer face and the hull. Squeeze a sufficient blob of filler onto the hull trying not to introduce air. Then slowly roll transducer into filler so no air is trapped as shown in the diagram, leaving a gap of 1-2mm between the face of the transducer and the hull.