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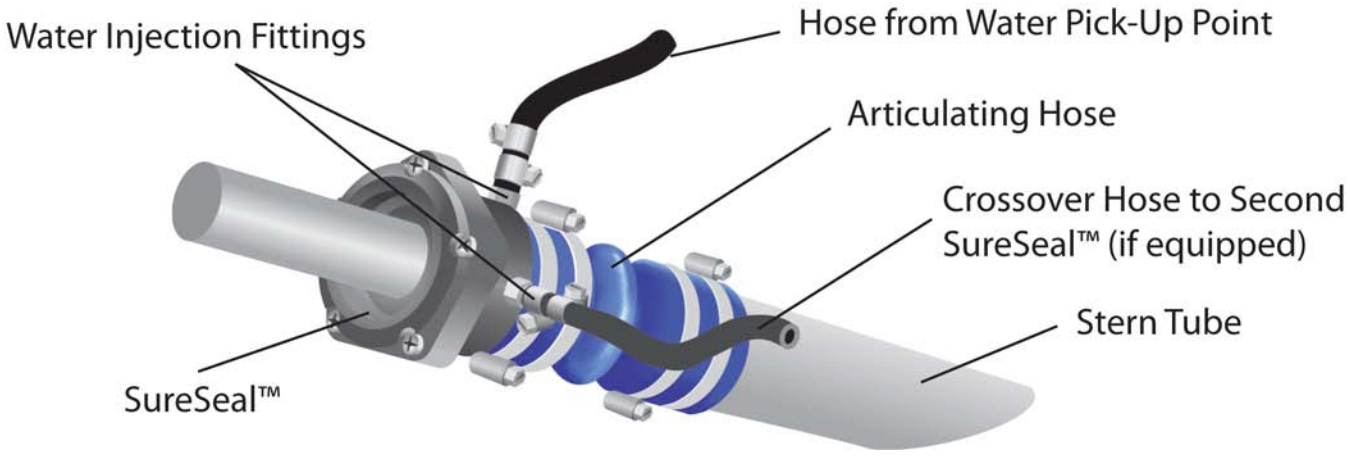
MAINTENANCE OF TIDES MARINE SURESEAL™



Tides Marine shaft seals require very little maintenance or winterisation. However a simple maintenance programme, especially important on boats that run on an infrequent basis, will ensure a long trouble free operating life.

The major cause of premature failure is a lack of cooling water being supplied to the seal head. This can be caused by:-

1/ Water supply point from the engine becomes blocked by scale or debris
2/ Water inlet fitting(s) on seal housing becomes blocked by scale or marine growth
3/ Failure of cooling water flow from engine

Our maintenance schedule is designed to reduce the risk of these problems affecting your installation.

Weekly maintenance

Start engine and run shaft at engine tick-over speed for 3 minutes in forward gear.

Return gearbox to neutral position and allow shaft to stop rotating.

Select reverse gear and run shaft at engine tick-over speed for 3 minutes.

Return gearbox to neutral position.

Note. This procedure will minimise the build up of marine growth and scale that can cause damage to the lip seal, alignment bearing and shaft bearings.

Monthly maintenance

With the boat in the water and the engine(s) stopped:-

Remove the crossover line (if fitted) and check the inflow of water from the sea. If the flow is strong, reassemble the crossover line. If there is weak flow then the fitting is blocked by marine growth and will need to be cleaned – a small flat blade screwdriver is ideal for this.

Remove the water lubrication hose (running between the engine and the shaft seal) from the stainless steel fitting on the shaft seal housing.

There should be a strong inflow of water through the fitting. If there is limited flow then the fitting is blocked by marine growth and will need to be cleaned – a small flat blade screwdriver is ideal for this.

When the inflow of water is strong, use the inspection cap attached to the fitting to stop the water flow.

Place the end of the water lubrication hose into a 10 litre / 2 gallon plastic bucket located 30cms / 12ins above the water pick-up point.

Start the engine and idle in neutral. Check that water is flowing from the hose into the bucket. The minimum water flow required is 4 litres of water per minute at engine idle.

Increase engine speed and confirm that there is a constant flow of water throughout the full RPM range.

If there is not adequate water flow, you will need to inspect the fitting on the engine that supplies the water, as this is likely to be blocked with scale / debris. Clean the fitting and retest.

When the water flow has been checked and found to be adequate, reconnect the hose and tighten the clamps.

6 monthly maintenance

Inspect the blue hose for damage.

Inspect the water lubrication hoses and crossover hoses for damage or chafing.

Inspect the water injection fittings and hose clamps for corrosion and ensure they are tight.

Check for drips or leaks.

General

Do not use grease or oil on the shaft seal.

Consult the Installation Manual for instructions on replacing a damaged lip seal.

Contact Tides Marine – www.tidesmarine.com – for technical assistance or advice.

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