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PO Box 40647, Cleveland, Johannesburg, 2022, South Africa

POLYMER INHIBITS GALVANIC CORROSION ON FOIL SUPPORTED CATS

Vesconite is typically found on a boat as a strut or rudder bearing material, but yacht designer Scott Jutson of Jutson Marine Design has a unique application for it. He specifies the advanced polymer as a corrosion isolator on his aluminum Hysucat (hydrofoil supported catamaran) designs.

Jutson uses 3mm sheets of Vesconite as an interface between SAF 2205 stainless steel hydrofoils and the aluminum hulls they're bolted to. The isolator inhibits galvanic corrosion between the dissimilar metals.

Unlike nylon that will soften and deform, the advanced polymer has high dimensional stability, excellent creep resistance and superior compression strength, making it ideal for any application where heavy torsional loading will be encountered. It also machines to the tight tolerances needed on the Hysucats.

"Performance has been flawless," said Jutson, CEO and chief designer. "We don't use a generic product, we actually spec Vesconite on the drawing."

As a bearing material, self-lubricating Vesconite offers low wear, with up to ten times the usable life of bronze. Vesconite Hilube provides the same qualities, but delivers even lower friction and longer life. It has no stick-slip, will run dry and is particularly effective in high-speed applications.

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Both polymers are offered as machined parts, or hollow bar, solid rod or plate shapes that are easily machined to +/-0.001". They're available in a wide array of dimensions and thicknesses, and are shipped from the company's US facility.

Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Jutson Marine Design is known for its innovative and fuel-efficient aluminum and composite commercial, government and recreational vessel designs. Using the latest 3D software, its full CNC outputs ensure fast and accurate construction. Its website is www.powercatamaran.ca.

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