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LATHAM MARINE RECEIVES PATENT ON NEW OUTBOARD MOTORSHAFT SUPPORT

Keeping the tradition of **Latham Marine's** 35-year history for creating solutions to marine-oriented problems, Bob Latham has just received another US patent for one of his inventions—a new Outboard Motorshaft Support. This patent is one of many that Latham has indexed in his pursuit of creating top-quality hydraulic steering systems and a whole line of OEM and after-market marine parts. (www.lathammarine.com)

Most engine drive shafts are 25" or 30". However, when the larger and higher horsepower engines were developed and had long drive shafts of 35", as the crank shaft turned, it would whip and clang—like a rod knock in a motor. This was caused by the long shaft being held in only two places, at the top of the power-head and at the bottom near the sea pump, with no support in the middle. Engine damage would inevitably ensue.

Latham examined the problem, created spacers and placed a bearing in the mid position to stabilize the shaft. "This will alleviate a lot of problems for large outboard engine owners," said Latham, "Once we created the side-mount steering system for the Yamaha 350 engines, we tested them with our customers and discovered other issues that needed to be addressed on these and other larger motors."

Latham Marine's main focus is to prevent problems, reduce maintenance costs and enhance performance. "When our customers enjoy their boating experience, without the hassles and headaches, we know we've done our job well," he adds, "I make every part as if it was going on my boat."

For further information call 800-422-RAMS (7267) or visit www.lathammarine.com

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