

Elastec Omni-Catamaran Workboat Is 'Swiss Army Knife' Afloat

Keeping rivers and waterways clean is a central mission for Elastec workboats. Its core competency is oil spill response equipment, and its products played a key part in the responses to the Deepwater Horizon spill. Those products now include a multitasking workboat.

Imagine a workboat that is a floating "Swiss Army knife" and you have a pretty good idea of what Elastec's Omni Catamaran is all about.

The all-aluminum workboat can be configured with various modules, including a deck plate, litter basket, pumpout station, washout pod, or A-frame lifting pod. The modules can pop in and out of

its 8- by 11-foot work platform to tailor it for a whole range of tasks and missions, from aquatic weed control to trash collection, supporting divers, buoy-handling, oil spill response or cargo hauling.

The marine-grade aluminum litter basket allows the Omni Cat, as it is nicknamed, to serve as a trash collection boat to skim floating debris in harbors and protected waterways.

Two Elastec boats, nicknamed the Skimmy Dipper and the Skim Pickens, were developed for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) to comply with a U.S. and Illinois EPA Consent Decree. Elastec

and MWRD worked together to develop two custom trash collection boats.

MWRD had requested a simple design, with few moving parts and easy to operate. Elastec has also designed trash collection boats for the city of Waco, Texas, and the city of Austin, Texas' Watershed Protection Departments.

Elastec also makes an advanced turbidity curtain that was part of an award-winning flood-control project in California, in which Caltrans engineers and contractors replaced an outdated and obsolete drain pipe in the environmentally-sensitive Crissy Field section of San Francisco. The pipe had caused chronic

flooding in the area. The project recently won the prestigious Flood Management Project of the Year Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The Carmi, Ill.-based Elastec sells its cleanup and environmental products in 155 countries, and has a high international profile that was enhanced when its innovative oil-skimmer won the prestigious X-Prize Foundation's Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup XChallenge in 2011, with a \$1.4 million prize attached.

Funded by the Schmidt Family Foundation, the XChallenge offered the prize to any company that could drastically increase the speed that oil is skimmed from water.

Nolan Bio Labs Produces Several Chemical Cleaners For Onboard Use

BY HEATHER ERVIN

Nolan Bio Labs Inc., Bethlehem, Ga., introduces three chemicals to be used in cleaning products to the inland river market. The products include Dry Powder, Yellow Stuff and Odor Neutralizer.

Dry Powder comes in 2-ounce NBL 107 soluble packets or 8-ounce NBL soluble packets. It also is available in loose powder at 25 pounds. Dry Powder is a ready-to-use, multiple spore blend powder. It's used in sailboats, yachts workboats and towboats.

It contains no harsh chemicals and helps restore full flow and odor reduction to slow-running drains and toilets. Additionally, the product claims to help keep

maintenance costs down.

"The bacteria we use are in spore form because they are very hardy," said Barbara Nolan of Nolan Bio Labs. "When these spores contact the waste they convert to live vegetative bacteria, which in turn produces the correct enzymes to convert waste into a food source for the bacteria to eat so they can reproduce. The bacteria die when the food source is depleted."

Yellow Stuff, a general purpose cleaner and degreaser, also contains no harsh chemicals. It cleans boat tops and sides, water lines, engines, floors, kitchen areas, stove tops, counters and makes a great barbecue grill cleaner.

Nolan said Yellow Stuff is not com-

patible with the company's BacTANKT3 products for holding tanks. It is also not a mold killer.

Yellow Stuff is available in 32 ounces, but can be ordered in larger quantities. "BacTANKT3 Yellow Stuff has many uses for cutting through grease and cleaning," said Nolan. "When using it, like with any cleaning chemical, use it in well-vented area."

The company's third product, Odor Neutralizer, is a liquid bacterial product that combines unique chemistry and microbiology to offer an innovative and effective approach to odor control, according to Nolan.

The product is effective in degrading the source of odors, rather than masking

them. It incorporates chemistry that first binds the odor molecules and then combines microbiology of specially selected bacteria to degrade the odor-causing molecules. Those molecules, said Nolan, are then converted into carbon dioxide and water.

Odor Neutralizer prevents the accumulation of scum, grease and other organics. It primarily controls odors associated with hydrogen sulfide, amine, volatile fatty acids, trimethylamine, dimethylamine and many other odor types.

Nolan said Odor Neutralizer can be applied to carpet and fabrics, restrooms, automobile interiors, water-damage areas, refuse collection areas, and more.

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