GAT Group

BPS MARINE
ULTRASONIC ANTIFOULING TECHNOLOGY

AQUILA 36 CASE STUDY

BY GAT GROUP & BPS MARINE

INTRODUCTION

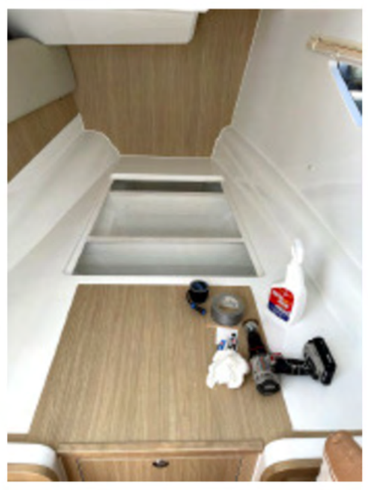
The GAT Group routinely conducts field tests on various hull types and materials as an ongoing effort to measure the performance of the GAT ultrasonic anti-fouling line of products. Test results are used to ensure, and improve, the effectiveness of the technology and product line.

Tests conducted within real-world environments are critical in providing reliable products that perform as intended.

Our most recent project boat is an Aquila 36 Sport Power Catamaran, docked in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. GAT Group systems were installed on the catamaran in the summer of 2021. The boat received no additional bottom cleaning maintenance during the testing period.

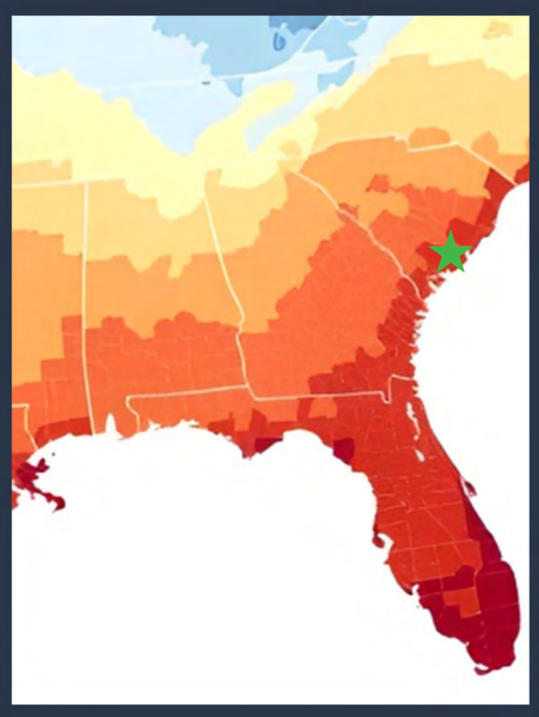
REPORT LOG 1

On June 30, 2021 the Aquila 36 Sport Power Catamaran was delivered to the testing slip in Mt. Pleasant. Immediately upon delivery, 2 GAT 2-transducer systems were installed - two transducers mounted inside each hull - a total of four transducers. The GAT Group controller modules were mounted in the rear hull access near the boat batteries.



LOCATION: SOUTH CAROLINA

The study is being conducted in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, a corner of the South East that receives a high level of sun light along with warm gulf stream waters and ocean temperatures. Marine fouling is exceptionally vigorous in this area due to dense marsh estuaries in the geographical region.



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PROJECT SUMMARY

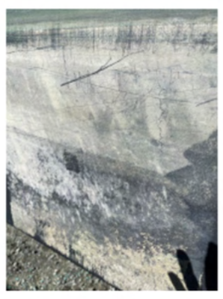
This report details a 30-week field test of the GAT ultrasonic anti-fouling system on an Aquila 36 Sport Power Catamaran. The test was conducted in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, a location notorious for aggressive marine fouling due to its warm, nutrient-rich estuarial waters.

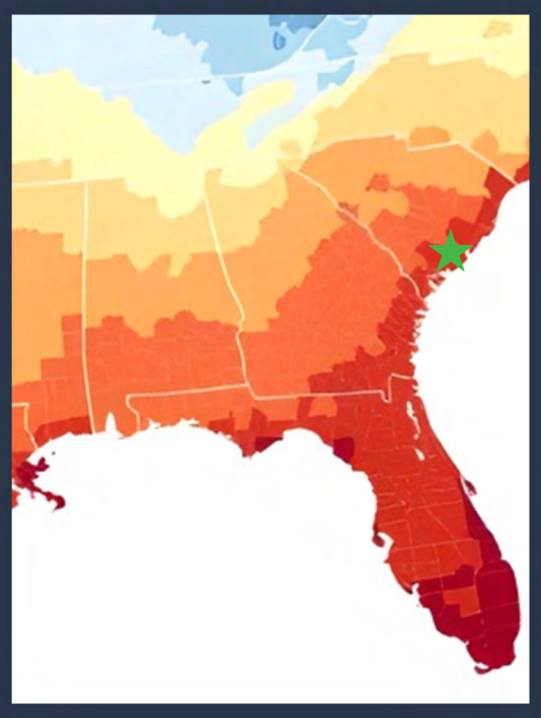
The GAT system was installed on June 30, 2021, and the vessel remained in the water continuously with no additional bottom cleaning or hull maintenance. This test was designed to isolate the system's performance in a high-growth environment.

Upon haul-out and inspection on February 10, 2022, the hulls were found to be free of essentially all marine fouling, coated only with a light, powdery residue. The test successfully validated the system's effectiveness over an extended period.

REPORT LOG 2

On February 10, 2022, after 30 weeks in the water with no bottom cleaning maintenance, the Aquila 36 Sport Power Catamaran was hauled for routine scheduled maintenance. Upon haul-out inspection, the hulls were merely coated with a powdery residue, and were free of essentially all marine fouling.



TEST BOAT: AQUILA 36

The vessel selected for this long-term performance evaluation is an Aquila 36 Sport Power Catamaran. This innovative, outboard-propelled power catamaran features a modern hull design, making it a representative example for many recreational boaters. Its composite hull construction also provides a standard, real-world material for assessing the ultrasonic system's performance.