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NEW VIKING 76 FEATURES SEAKEEPER GYRO STABILIZATION SYSTEM

To ensure comfort while fishing, John Picone, the proud owner of a new, fully-customized Viking 76 Enclosed Bridge, demanded that a state-of-the-art Seakeeper M21000 Gyro be installed. Impressed with the stabilization results, Viking Yachts now offers advanced Seakeeper gyros as optional equipment on many of its models.

"The Seakeeper gyro is phenomenal," said Viking senior project manager Bill Gibbons. "It does everything the company says it does. During the sea trial, there were four- to six-foot waves with an occasional eight-footer and I estimate that the gyro cut the rolling motion by over 50 to 70 percent. From the sky bridge, it was like day and night. You could really feel the difference."

After a weekend fishing excursion, Picone was also very pleased with the performance of the yacht and M21000 gyro. "We fished for at least twenty-six hours and the following day all eight fishermen felt like they never left the dock," said Picone. "No one was sore or tired from the trip. Now, I cannot imagine fishing without our Seakeeper working."

"I consider the Seakeeper one of the most important pieces of equipment onboard," said Picone. "When drifting or trolling at slow speed, the boat will not rock. The only movement is the boat rising and falling, making fishing totally comfortable and enjoyable. You cannot leave home without it."

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Seakeeper engineers worked closely with Viking engineering and production personnel to ensure the design and installation process went smoothly on the Viking 76 Enclosed Bridge. Redistributing space in the lazarette under the cockpit deck, the unit was completely secured and integrated with the hull. Seakeeper senior product engineer Brian Steele said, "Working with Viking was a really great experience. They're one of the most organized and professional builders I have had the pleasure of collaborating with. Once the engineering was complete and signed-off, the installation was perfectly executed."

Founded in 1964, Viking Yachts is the largest manufacturer in the world of luxury convertible sport fishing yachts. With a line that ranges from 42' to 82' and new models in development, the company continues to be a leading marine industry builder.

"The people at Seakeeper have been great to work with," said Gibbons. "Everything was on time and there were no surprises. They're really committed to their products and we currently have two more projects in the works with Seakeeper gyros, an 82 and 70."

With no external appendages, Seakeeper Gyro Stabilization Systems are mounted inside the hull and produce a powerful righting force that virtually eliminates boat rock and roll. The actively-controlled units optimize torque and are highly effective over a range of conditions, delivering unmatched stability at anchor, zero and low speeds, as well as while underway.

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