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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 9, 2019

DOCKSTAR INTRODUCES NEW SELF-POWERED BOW AND STERN THRUSTER FOR PONTOON BOATS

Low cost, self-contained, wireless deck-mounted bow thruster for pontoon boats

Poulsbo, WA December 9, 2019– DockStar’s revolutionary self-contained bow and stern thrusters are now available for pontoon boats. Smart Thrusters for many styles of boats can be seen at the January Seattle Boat Show in the DockStar booth **932** in the East Hall.

The “Smart Thruster” slides down a T-track to deploy for docking, and then is retracted back up the T-track when underway. This system is simple and reliable. The Thruster contains its own rechargeable lithium batteries and is wirelessly controlled. As a result, no wiring to the boat is required. Other than drilling the holes for the mounting bolts, no modification to the boat is needed. The boat does not even need to be hauled out of the water. The full installation can be done by one person in about an hour.

Dockstar’s president, Terry Conrad, explains, “we all know that bow and stern thrusters significantly improve the maneuverability of pleasure boats, making boating more enjoyable and safer, but the high cost and complexity of existing thrusters deter most boaters from fitting them to their boats. Now, pontoon boat fans can affordably enjoy the benefits of having a bow or stern thruster, or both”.

The power is provided by internal rechargeable LiFePo4 batteries. This battery technology is capable of producing very high power in a small package. The thrusters can operate continuously for about 10 minutes before needing to be recharged. This is easily enough time for 6-8 dockings between charges.

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The thruster can be left on the track in the retracted position while underway, or can be completely slid off the track and stowed away. The thruster is fully standalone so there are no wires or mounting apparatus to interfere with true portability.

The same product can serve as either a bow or a stern thruster. The handheld remote control can be configured to control both the bow and the stern thruster from a single transmitter. This combination provides for impressive maneuverability.

DockStar manufactures thrusters for recreational marine trawlers and sailboats. It is now offering this technology for pontoon boat owners. The only difference between their existing marine product and the new pontoon boat product is the mounting system. The new mounting system is still based on marine-grade 316 stainless steel hardware, but it is configured to mount to a pontoon boat's deck.

The new DockStar Smart Thruster is intended for pontoon boats ranging in size from 22 to 32 feet. For further detailed information visit us at <https://www.dockstarthrusters.com>.

DockStar is a Kitsap, Washington company specializing in leveraging recent technology advances in battery chemistry and electronics to enable a new generation of bow and stern thrusters.

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