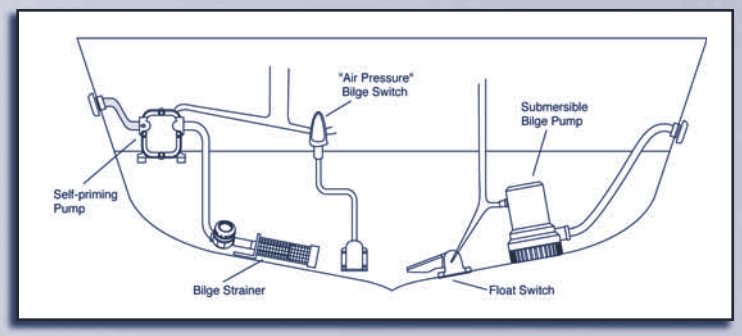
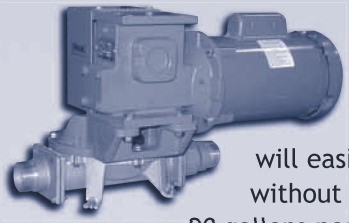
CONTENTS
ENGINE COOLING
INDEX
HOME
NEXT
BACK

SELF-PRIMING VS. SUBMERSIBLE BILGE PUMPS



A submersible pump is the most efficient and least expensive way to move a high volume of water in a short amount of time. However, it is not always possible to mount a submersible pump in the space available, and submersible pumps are only capable of moving liquid a short distance. Self-priming pumps can be mounted above the bilge area in a convenient location of your choosing and are designed to overcome much greater back pressure. When choosing a self-priming bilge pump be aware that some types can be damaged when run dry while others are not (example: diaphragm type).

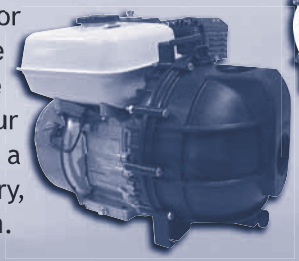
SELF-PRIMING, DRY RUNNING BILGE PUMPS



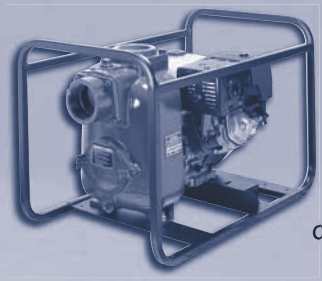
The diaphragm pumping principle is self-priming and will run dry indefinitely. Small and economical direct drive models will quickly lift bilge water up and force it overboard in short order. Larger sizes will easily pass solids that might pass through your strainer without clogging. Sizes are available that will deliver up to 20 gallons per minute. See page 39 for details.

EMERGENCY BACK-UP BILGE PUMPS

Every boat should have a back-up bilge pump. Either a manual diaphragm or piston design or the emergency electric or engine drive variety. It's also not a bad idea to have a 115 vac submersible bilge pump on your dock for quickly saving your boat from a trip to the bottom caused by low battery, broken seacock or overwhelming storm.



6" SALVAGE PUMP BY GORMAN RUPP



Gorman Rupp manufactures a full range of true trash pumps with front clean-out, silicon carbide seal, ductile iron impeller, replaceable wear plate and solid cast iron or cast aluminum housings. Most configurations are available in roll cage or cart mounting in 2" to 6" ports, flows to 1200 gpm, suction lift of 25 feet and diesel or gas engines. See page 38.

NEW LAWS OUTLAW MERCURY FLOAT SWITCHES!

Connecticut, California and Maine prohibited the sale of all float switches that contain mercury on July 1st, 2006. Both Rule and Johnson have taken the opportunity to upgrade their switches to mercury-free construction. Depco Pump Company has these new models available for immediate shipment.

PICKING THE RIGHT FLOAT SWITCH

Matching the float switch to your pump and boat is vital for dependably keeping your boat afloat. Always verify that the switch is rated for your pump's voltage and amperage. The typical "hinged" float switch operates satisfactorily in most installations. However, we highly recommend using a switch guard to prevent debris in the bilge from blocking proper operation. "Air Pressure" actuated switches are ideal for bilge areas where there is not room for a submersible switch (or pump for that matter). An example would be the narrow keel of a sailboat. Electronically actuated float switches have come a long way since their introduction. Several models are extremely dependable and will far outlive the traditional "hinged" float switch. See page 34 for our selection of float switches.