



33 Greenwood Avenue • Midland Park, NJ 07432
phone: 201-670-0104 • fax: 201-445-8575
website: www.gullssweep.com

REFERENCE TO THE SUBJECT OF GULLSWEEP OVERBOARD AND LOST USERS,

We have had comments over the years about Gull Sweeps being lost overboard. I think an evaluation of “overboard” is due.

I, personally, have inspected zillions of Gull Sweep installations throughout the North East area over the years during visits to various N.E. harbors and friends on the waterfront. I have seen Gull Sweeps under every type of installation imaginable. These visual inspections revealed that about 80% of them were installed in accordance with our recommendations, 10% were marginal and 10% were destined to fail.

In our continuing R&D efforts we have 35 Gull Sweeps (4', 6' & 8' in dia.) working 24/7, year round, in the worst or at least the most difficult weather conditions possible. When Irene blew through in early September of this year at 60 mph it destroyed a 4' Gull Sweep. Another 3 footer blew off a 20' boat nearby. Close inspection showed the mounting pin on the boat had tipped over to about a 45° angle to the water and the Gull Sweep went overboard. By reconstructing the boat's location on its mooring and the wind direction of the storm, we knew the specific location of disappearance. At low tide the water was 3' deep and the missing Gull Sweep was right there on the bottom. We readjusted and secured the mounting pin, washed off the Gull Sweep and we were back in business. Gull Sweep users who have lost Gull Sweeps are absolutely convinced they fly away. Gull Sweeps do not fly, however they can fall off a tilted mounting pin, and they do not float. If you have had such an occurrence, reconstruct the conditions and you may very well find that Gull Sweep close to the event, on the bottom. Shallow water makes the find much easier.

A lesson learned is that not every installation is perfect. The installation can change over time with severe wind and rotational vibration that Gull Sweep generates, and so some type of retainer could eliminate this unfortunate event that happens to a few Gull Sweeps. So from now on, every Gull Sweep will come with a simple retainer clip which should prevent a Gull Sweep from falling off the mounting pin no matter what the angle is. Simple in design, however every installer must read the installation instructions carefully to be assured the retainer can do its job if called upon. (As seen in instructions, there should always be clearance between the retainer clip and the Gull Sweep hub so drag friction does not occur.) You don't have to use it if you feel the installation is good and secure. We have made the retainer as a separate kit in the past and very few were requested. On the other hand, we do not want unhappy Gull Sweep users who are sure their Gull Sweep just flew away. If you would like a retainer for your Gull Sweep installation, let me know.

We are always interested in your comments and suggestions. Please email us at info@gullssweep.com,
Attention: P. Zecher.

Happy Boating.