

Catamaran of the future with igus technology on board

Worldwide unique concept combines advantages of single and multiple hull boats

The Futura Yacht Systems GmbH has developed an innovative solution that makes it possible to adjust the width of seagoing catamarans. When docking in ports, only one berth is sufficient instead of the previous two. This leads to a significant cost saving. The lubrication-free and maintenance-free e-chains and the drylin linear guides from igus make this possible.

Safe, upright sailing and high sailing comfort are the main advantages of double hull boats. The stability of the boats is made possible by the optimal distribution of the weight on two so-called floats. However, the width also entails considerable costs. Two berths must be occupied and even the crane of the boat is complex and expensive. In order to circumvent these disadvantages and to save costs, the Futura Yacht Systems GmbH developed the first width-variable seagoing catamaran. The width can be reduced to 4.85 metres, from the previous eight metres. This takes place by the retraction of the two floats by a shifting mechanism. This enables it easily to use only one berth. This also simplifies the crane and transport by a lorry. In addition, the individual parts, like in the automotive industry, can be manufactured in modular design. Overall, considerable costs are thus saved.

Innovation thanks to lubrication-free and maintenance-free igus components

Various maintenance-free products from the motion plastics specialist igus are used in the shifting mechanism of the float. The high-performance plastics developed for the motion display their strengths especially in the maritime environment due to their freedom from corrosion and lubrication. At the rear of the catamaran, two igus e-chains of the E4 series are installed in the interior of the vessel and they ensure a safe guidance of the cables when the boat is being slid together. In addition, there are eight drylin linear guides on the bow and stern. These are also located transversely in the ship under the living cabin. The

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lightweight guides allow for a safe and stable extension of the float and thus contribute to the smooth function of the mechanism.

Captions:



Picture PM6616-1

The catamaran can shorten its width from 8 metres to only 4.85 metres. Lubrication-free and maintenance-free linear guides and e-chains from igus are used in the shifting mechanism of the float. (Source: Futura Yacht Systems GmbH)

PRESS CONTACT:

Oliver Cyrus
Head of Media and Advertising

igus® GmbH
Spicher Strasse 1a
51147 Cologne
Tel. 0 22 03 / 96 49-459
Fax +49 22 03 / 96 49-631
ocyrus@igus.de
www.igus.de/de/presse

ABOUT IGUS:

igus GmbH is a globally leading manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The Cologne-based family business has offices in 35 countries and employs around 2,950 people around the world. In 2015, igus generated a turnover of 552 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

The terms "igus", "chainflex", "CFRIP", "conprotect", "CTD", "drylin", "dry-tech", "dryspin", "easy chain", "e-chain", "e-chain systems", "e-ketten", "e-kettensysteme", "e-skin", "energy chain", "energy chain systems", "flizz", "iglide", "iglidur", "igubal", "invis", "manus", "motion plastics", "pikchain", "readychain", "readycable", "speedigus", "triflex", "twisterchain", "plastics for longer life", "robolink", "xiros", "xirodur" und "vector" are protected by trademark laws in the Federal Republic of Germany and internationally, where applicable.