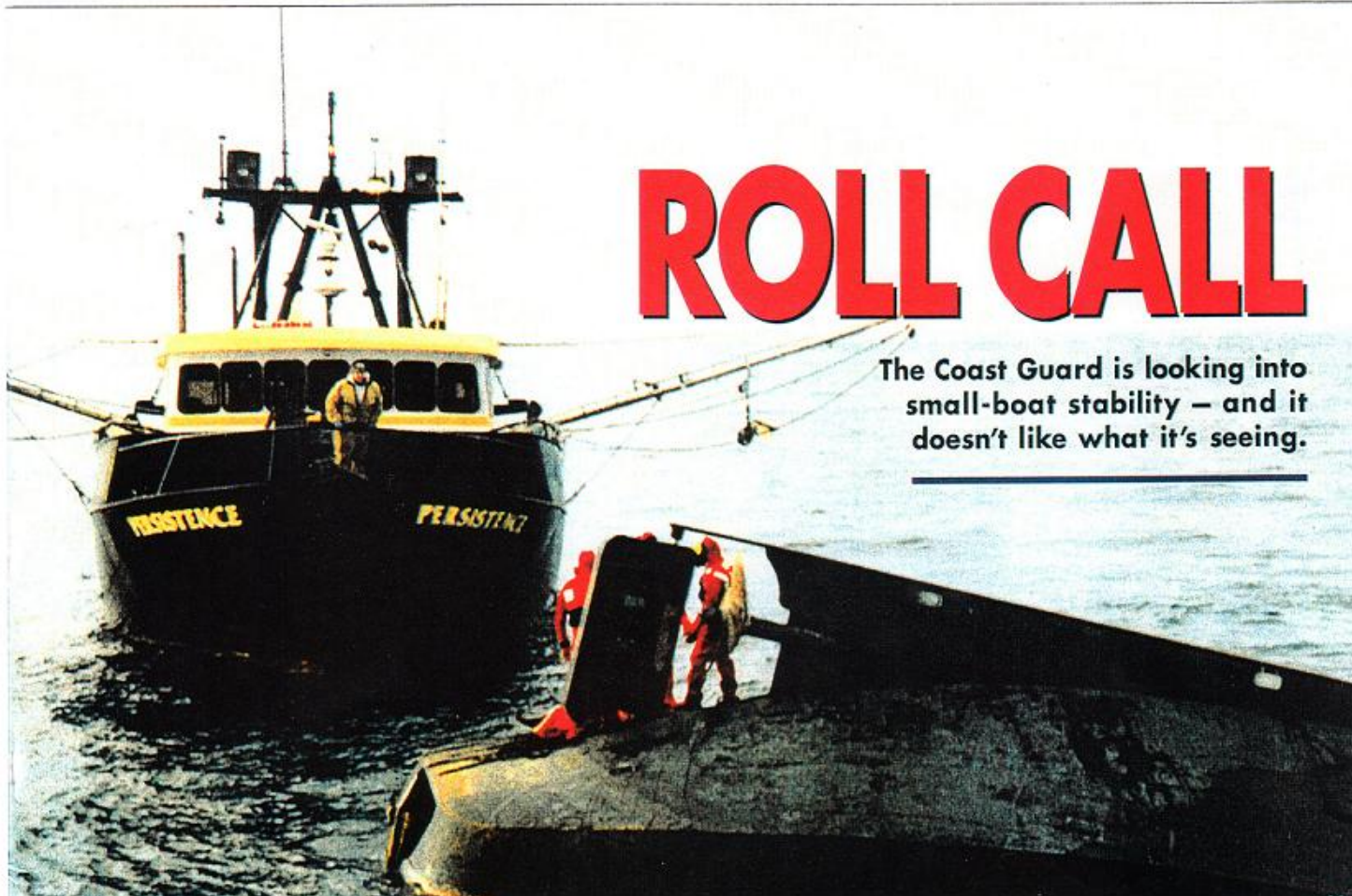


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THE LIFE AND BUSINESS OF PROFESSIONAL FISHING



ROLL CALL

The Coast Guard is looking into small-boat stability — and it doesn't like what it's seeing.

PRODUCT ROUNDUP

Purifier gives operators a clean break from onboard fuel-system problems

RCI Purifier West's device removes water and contaminants from engine fuel.

BY LINC BEDROSIAN

It's said an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. A San Dimas, Calif.-based company says its Marine Diesel Fuel Purifier line can help prevent fuel-filter-system headaches.

RCI Purifier West President Robert Randle says the purifier, designed by maintenance people who understand the problems that fuel and fuel filters can cause, saves users money and time spent on maintenance and repairs, improves engine performance, lowers emissions and reduces hazardous-waste-disposal costs.

Randle reports that the company has had "zero complaints about the performance of the RCI" from its customers — which, in addition to commercial fisher-

boat companies, England's Royal Defense Ministry is also testing RCI's purifier.

RCI purifiers have no moving parts, and there's nothing to change or replace, says Randle, who notes, "All you dispose of is the contamination; you're not throwing away clean fuel."

The purifier, installed before the primary filter, is a centrifugal separator designed to remove over 99 percent of all water and up to 98 percent of dust, dirt and other normal and natural contaminants found in all types of engine fuel.

As fuel enters the purifier, it flows through an internal chamber. The centrifuge casts the fuel against a steel plate, which immediately stops the fuel from spinning and causes the heavier particles to drop from the fuel stream.

fuel and contaminants from remixing, even in rough seas. A vessel's rocking motion causes solid particles of rust and sediment, plus any water that may have been in the fuel tanks, to quickly build up in the primary filter, impeding fuel flow and causing engine rpm to fall.

But the baffle system lets clean fuel work through the baffles and head into the fuel system; the heaviest contaminants — water, rust, algae and various other sediments — fall to the bottom and remain in the purifier's sump.

The sump capacity can take vessels from one normal service interval to the next. And servicing the unit takes only seconds, Randle says, since no tools are needed. An optional sensor sounds when contaminants reach approximately 40 per-

cent. Although RCI purifiers may cost a dollars more than other units, says Randle, unlike other filtration systems on the market, the RCI is cost-free after installa-

Purifier sizes range from 0.5 gpm flow up to 400 gpm. For more informat-

contact RCI Purifier West, 466 W. Arrow Highway, Suite D, San Dimas, CA 91773, tel. (909) 305-1241. Circle Reader Inquiry No. 1.

EVEN IN ROUGH SEAS, fuel stays contaminant-free, thanks to the specially designed baffle system in the



