

Largest US-built aluminum pilot boat protected with Ecospeed



ECOSPEED[®] 
SHIP HULL PERFORMANCE TECHNOLOGY

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When pilot boat *Spindletop* was delivered recently its underwater deep V-bottom hull was coated with Ecospeed to protect the vessel against corrosion. The 27.4-meter boat was built by Louisiana boat builder Breaux's Bay Craft.

Breaux was founded in 1946 and specializes in aluminum vessels built to meet the customer's requirements. Drawing upon 75 years of experience, this family-owned company consists of several generations of professionals. Their impressive track record has helped them establish a strong reputation within the shipbuilding industry and with the U.S. Coast Guard and ABS.

Keep up to speed

M/V *Spindletop* has individual seating for one operator and 15 pilots or passengers. The pilot boat can reach speeds of up to 30.6 knots and will sail at an estimated running speed of 27 knots during daily operations.

For a fast-going vessel like this it is important to have a coating that will last and will help keep the speed intact. Ecospeed gives an underwater hull the best possible hydrodynamic characteristics. What is more, the performance of the ship does not degrade. Large fuel savings are the result. This



Pilot boat Spindletop prior to application.

brings huge financial benefits over the lifetime of the ship.

Suited for all surfaces

Ecospeed can be applied to polyester, aluminum and steel surfaces. In all cases the same lasting protection is offered. For aluminum vessels corrosion

can become a big problem if the hull is not kept safe. Applying our coating will remove this issue completely: No corrosion will appear on Ecospeed hulls.

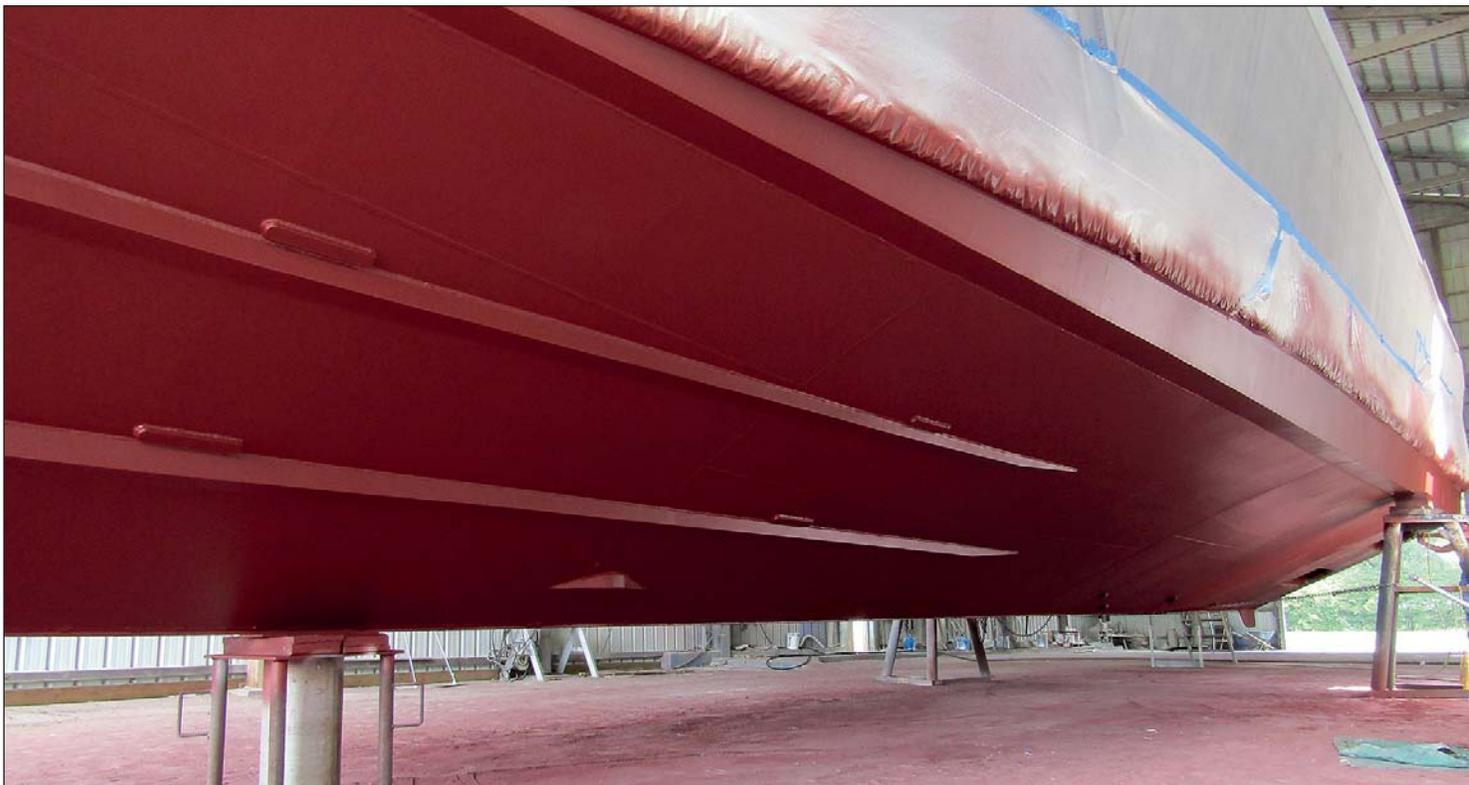
The application process is very easy and can be done very fast. The coating only requires two layers. No topcoats, no primers or any other additional



Application of first Ecospeed layer.



Application of second layer.



Ecospeed can be applied on all surfaces.

layers are needed. Ecospeed also has very flexible overcoating times. The second layer can already be applied three hours after the first. As a result the application can be scheduled around other work taking place in the yard or dock.

Future dockings are also far easier to plan. Ecospeed comes with a ten-year guarantee. The coating will last the full service life of the ship without need for replacement or major repair. Only small touch-ups will be required. These can easily be done during a (short) routine drydock visit. They blend in perfectly with the existing coating. Because no repaint is needed, days and up to a week can be saved in drydock times during each visit.



Spindletop after application.



Spindletop is the largest aluminum pilot boat constructed in the US.



Spindletop ready for delivery with lasting Ecospeed protection.

Just wash it

Every hull coating fouls and as a result cleaning is an unavoidable reality for shipowners. For most coatings this is a problem because they cannot be cleaned without damaging them, often very

severely. Ecospeed, however, was designed to be maintained regularly while keeping the coating intact for 20 years or longer.

One of the many unique factors of this underwater hull coating system is that with repeated underwater hull cleaning, the coating's surface aspect does not degrade but gradually improves. This procedure is made easy by the coating's technical properties. Cleaning can be carried out whenever needed, at any point in its lifespan, without causing damage.

Conclusion

Whenever protection is needed for a ship, Ecospeed offers the best solution. Whether it entails the underwater hull of a vessel or any other part of the ship, applying our coating system will

make sure you will not have to worry anymore. The result is always the same: a lasting, non-toxic protection against corrosion, cavitation and even mechanical damage. ■

Contact us for more information

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