

Press Release

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Rexroth hydraulics at the center of things

The Predator 130 is the current flagship in the range from Sunseeker International Ltd. In the future it will be crossing the oceans with a new, compact hydraulic solution from Rexroth.



A luxury cruiser with fun factor: A new compact hydraulic unit from Rexroth provides welcome amenities on board of the Predator 130, current flagship of the yacht builder Sunseeker.

A touch of luxury: The British yacht builder Sunseeker International Ltd. is fitting out its Predator 130 with Rexroth hydraulic units. The system lifts and lowers the yacht's bathing platform and garage door for example, and also controls eight other functions to make life on board just a touch more bearable. The unique feature of this system is that the Rexroth compact hydraulic unit combines all the functions in a single hydraulic circuit. This economic system also features compact dimensions as well as easy installation, maintenance, and adjustment, plus Rexroth reliability.

The Predator 130 is the largest vessel in the Sunseeker Predator series built at the Sunseeker shipyard in Poole, Great Britain. The Predator 130 features the very latest navigation equipment, computer-controlled engine management, an abundance of space and luxury – and hydraulic technology from Rexroth. Below deck there is a compact hydraulic unit which is specially tailored to meet the requirements of yachts up to 50 meters in length. The system consists of a newly developed compact hydraulic manifold together with control modules which have been purpose-designed for installation in small spaces.

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The Rexroth solution enables a whole range of amenities to be offered to those traveling on board. For example, at the touch of a button the system can raise and lower the bathing platform, open and close the garage door, deploy the sliding rear deck sun canopy or extend the balconies. The trim tabs are also individually adjusted hydraulically

Overall, the compact hydraulic unit at the heart of the Predator 130 controls a total of ten movements, some of them complicated. "To date a separate circuit with all the related pipe work has been the standard for these applications in yacht building," explains Mark Chinery Super Yacht Technical Manager at Sunseeker. The new compact system from Rexroth, on the other hand, has just one hydraulic circuit in total. "The concept is currently unique in the industry. Compared to conventional systems it requires a great deal less planning, installation and pipe work for the hydraulic system", says Chinery. That saves both time and production costs.

The other features of the Rexroth system pay dividends while the yacht is at sea, with less need for maintenance resulting in lower operating costs. Moreover, the system has two valves for controlling the flow of hydraulic oil. If one fails, the spare function on the manifold can be used to take over. The unit and controller are also designed to provide energy efficiency. They do not cut in until power has been requested for the various functions. This reduces fuel consumption and noise emissions on board, raising the comfort level even further for demanding skippers and their passengers.

"Our concept is based on standard components with high quality and durability from the Rexroth Industrial Hydraulics Division," explains Jeldrik Borch, Project Engineer for Marine Technology at Rexroth. "This enables us to provide yacht builders with cost-effective modular solutions which can be tailored flexibly to the requirements of the most diverse ships and model versions."

Bosch Rexroth AG is one of the world's leading specialists in the field of drive and control technologies. Under the brand name of Rexroth the company supplies more than 500,000 customers with tailored solutions for driving, controlling and moving. Bosch Rexroth is a partner for industrial applications and factory automation, mobile applications and using renewable energies. As The Drive & Control Company, Bosch Rexroth develops, produces and sells components and systems in more than 80 countries. In 2008 Bosch Rexroth AG, part of the Bosch Group, achieved sales of around 5.9 billion Euro with 35,300 employees.

For more information please visit: www.boschrexroth.com

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