

Safety First

A look at how salon doors are being made safer

For about twelve years manufacturers and aftermarket installers in the marine industry have been using door checks, and automated systems to regulate the speed of salon doors in the open sea. Primarily for safety reasons these automated doors ensure a safer and more comfortable boating experience for everyone.

One such company is First Mate, Inc., a company that has been designing and installing their patented automation systems on pleasure yachts and sport-fishing yachts since 1996. "When you have an automated salon door, your boat becomes a lot safer for everyone. The danger to children and pets is much higher than it is to adults and can be potentially fatal," says Ron Adams, president of First Mate. "Initially some people just looked at our system as a gadget, something to impress their friends with. While it does look pretty nice to have the door open and close at the push of a button, safety is our main concern."

In addition to the popularity of First Mate's automated system on sport-fishing yachts, most of the larger pleasure yachts can have automated doors as well. It is very important to the owners of these vessels to provide safety and comfort for their family and guests. While safety is the main concern, the little things that make your system special are still

available, like motion sensors, timers, pressure-switches, auto-close and keyless entry. First Mate also just released the new Man-O-War system, a replacement for broken and outdated systems. It is a quality replacement for the doors that keep breaking, and is an affordable option when it comes to automation on your yacht.

First Mate Inc. is the leader in the automation industry creating systems using quality pneumatic parts that can stand up to the harsh environment of heat, vibration, and the salt air. There are no electric parts to degrade or short out, and safety measures are in place should there be a loss of air. They have been looking for new applications for their system and creating new innovations. One such innovation is a control system for swinging doors another industry first introduced this year at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. Now you can have added safety and convenience on swinging doors as well.

A final word from Ron, "We are always looking to create a safer environment for boating. If you don't have an automated system, or door check, please remember to keep your doors latched securely for every ones safety." Keep yourself safe and prevent accidents before they happen. Happy boating! ❖



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