

DISCOVERY OF LEACKY DECK / BULWARKS MOUNTED FITTINGS

by Matthew A. Davidson on S/V Wildflower '83 Passport 40

The Problem: Deck penetrations & bulwark mounted fittings will leak at some point.

Below are images of current leaky Stanchion mounts on our bulwarks.

Hello P-Owners

I just pulled all of our Stanchion bases off of the Bulwarks. We are Repainting again after The Interlux Bright-Sides failed on our 1st effort. Really weak deck paint. Had Micro blisters after the winter season of weathering.

Since we have a blank canvas after restoring the deck from the fire of 2 years ago... we are going to remove all of the deck mounted fittings, re-sand the deck, and install raised blocks of G-10 at every point on deck and coat with Sherwin Williams Corothane. This paint is really tough... super high solids and cures with ambient moisture... which we have a-plenty in Seattle. I have used it before so have very high confidence in this product. It's an industrial high gloss bridge paint that is tough as nails. A product the Marina Rats here are putting on a lot of boats. Then we will put down 60 grit garnet for nonskid to the old pattern.

After removing the lifeline stanchion bases from the bulwarks... I found two leaky ones. The bedding had obviously failed... especially at the ones next to the port deck drain. Fortunately... all of the bolts came out very easily as who-ever did this last used dolphinite on the bolts with 3M 4000 on the metal face. Actually not a bad combination as the threads did not bind or gall.

Might want to check your Chocks for good bedding seal as well as I'm pretty sure between the Stanchion base, chock and cap rail bedding... these are largely the cause of the tea-staining we all combat. Going to try and clean up the edge of the bulwark/cap rail joint and put a clean bead of Sikaflex 295 down this edge to try and seal from outside weathering. For now... letting it all dry out.

