

# ANNUAL MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS



There is very little annual maintenance required on Side-Power thrusters. If you follow these simple guidelines, your thruster will provide you with many years of trouble-free service.

1. Remove prop(s) and grease prop shaft with marine grade grease. Anodes should be replaced yearly or when they are half eroded. Prior to launch wire brush clean lightly eroded anodes to remove any oxidation after being exposed to air.
2. Apply fresh bottom paint to prop(s), gearleg and tunnel. Note: be careful not to get paint on the prop shaft, prop shaft seal, and the anode.
3. Replace anode, apply thread lock such as Loctite Blue to the anode screw.
4. Check oil in feed tube for water. If the oil is milky in color, water is present and the gearleg needs to be serviced by a qualified marine technician.
5. Check gearleg oil reservoir level, top off as necessary. EP90 (Extreme Pressure) gear oil is recommended. If necessary, 90 weight inboard/outboard gear lube, 80-90 weight, or 85-90 weight gear oil (available at automotive parts stores) can be substituted.
6. The gearleg oil should be changed every two years. Remove the gearleg drain plug and allow fresh oil from the reservoir to flush out the old oil. Re-install drain plug with new copper gasket and top off reservoir.  
**Note: Sealed gearlegs are permanently sealed and do not require oil changes.**
7. Test the condition of the batteries. 12 volt batteries should have a minimum of 12.6V; 24 volt batteries should have a minimum of 25.2V.
8. Inspect all cable connections; ensure they are clean and tight.
9. Vacuum or blow out motor to remove carbon dust. Avoid breathing carbon dust when blowing motor out with compressed air.
10. Inspect motor brushes: Pull back brush retaining springs and slide brushes back and forth in their holders. They should be loose and slide freely in the brush holder.

**Note:** Ignition Protected (IP) units do not require steps 9 and 10.