

Mankiewicz Boards The Yacht Market

Further to their recent foray into the luxury-yacht market (see issue 60), a new set of products specifically designed for fibreglass, steel and aluminum is now on the market following several years of research and development by German paint pioneer Mankiewicz.

Alexseal, the result of this research and development, combines the highest quality pigments, solvents, resins, ultra-violet resistors and agents with the most advanced hybrid topcoats available on the market today. With this system, the application process requires fewer steps, fewer coats for full coverage, and the final surface represents the industry's best combination of appearance, durability and reparability claims its manufacturer.

The company advocates a three-step process to ensure an optimum coating. For aluminium or steel hulls, that starts with Alexseal Protective Primer 101, a corrosion-prevention coating. This has quick initial drying and curing times and is easy to apply using either a sprayer or roller.

Once this coating has been applied, then Fairing Compound 202, a solvent-free filler can be used. This lightweight compound mixes



easily, offers superior holding properties, prevents trapped air pockets, and sands to a smooth surface quickly. The Alexseal Super Build 302 High Build Surfacer completes the build-up process. This white, high build epoxy uses pigments and extenders instead of micro-balloons for surface build and provides an ideal surface to sand in order to achieve a yacht finish with a topcoat. Premium Topcoat 501, again part of the Alexseal range, is based on a polyester urethane, with hybrid resins added to provide many properties of an acrylic finish. The result, claims Mankiewicz, "is a coating that is as easy to repair, with the durability and hardness of a linear polyester urethane".

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