

TECHNICAL ARTICLE

Environmental Products & Spill Prevention









We have a large range of environmentally friendly products to help with green boating.

MyCelx Bilge Filters

Bilge filters are designed to be fitted in the bilge discharge line and remove oil and fuel (hydrocarbons) in a single pass to prevent polluting the water around you when pumping out the bilge.

In an ideal world, every boat would be fitted with a bilge filter to prevent them from discharging pollution from the bilge. However, as it stands only certain regulations state you must fit them. For example, the Boat Safety Scheme (BSS) advise you should fit a bilge filter if you do not have a secure tray fitted under the engine to catch any drips or if there is any risk of any hydrocarbons mixing with the bilge water.

For a bilge filter to comply to BSS standards, it must be capable of 5 parts per million (PPM) discharge performance. Don't worry, all of our bilge filters comply to these standards! For more information on this, please visit www.boatsafetyscheme.org



So, how are the MyCelx bilge filters able to give such a high level of filtration? Here's the science bit...

MyCelx is infused so that it is homogeneously dispersed throughout the base materials. As hydrocarbons (oil and fuel) come into contact with MyCelx, they are solubilised into the infused MyCelx coating, making them hydrophobic and thickening them so they will not re-disperse into the solution. MyCelx is a non-hazardous / non-toxic material that will not dissolve or migrate in water.

TOP TIP:

Bilge socks are a cost effective and simple solution to remove hydrocarbons as they capture oil and fuel and repel water. These are ideal to use in conjunction with a bilge filter by removing the bulk of the hydrocarbons to prolong the life of the filter elements.



Checklist for preventing fuel & oil spills

Did you know, only 5% of oil and fuel pollution in the water are from catastrophic spills, the majority comes from everyday sources such as refuelling, engine emissions and oil leaks. One drop of oil can contaminate thousands of litres of water! So what can you do to help?

- Check your bilge before pumping or fitting a new bilge filter
- Use a large enough funnel if you have to refuel on board
- Keep the engine well tuned and operating efficiently
- Avoid over filling the tank and allow room for the fuel to expand
- NEVER use detergents to deal with spills, it may disperse the fuel or oil and save you embarassment, but they can do even more damage
- Practice preventive engine maintenance, inspect fuel lines, connections and seals to avoid leaks
- Always keep a spill kit on board to be on the safe side

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