

OPTIONS

Your new Ericson may be fitted with a wide variety of options, all of which will add to the pleasure of sailing. We have included a general discussion of the options available on your particular model. If you have purchased the option, instructions published by the manufacturer of the equipment are included in the pocket at the back of this manual.

If you have specific questions about the operation or maintenance of any optional item, it is best to first contact the nearest supplier handling the particular item of equipment. He is best equipped and trained to offer timely and knowledgeable service. A list of the original equipment manufacturers who supply the optional equipment is included in this manual. In the event that a dealer or service representative is not available, you should contact your Ericson dealer for information.

DIESEL ENGINE

Since diesel engines do not require an electrical ignition system to produce combustion they are ideal for marine installations. Instead of a coil, distributor, and spark plugs, all of which are subject to problems caused by dampness, the diesel produces its power when fuel oil is precisely injected into the cylinder under high pressure causing combustion. Although diesels are relatively immune to malfunction caused by dampness, they are very prone to stoppages caused by dirty fuel. It is important to install quality fuel filters and regularly change the cartridges in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Air in the fuel lines can stop a diesel just as easily as dirt, so it is important to learn the proper bleeding procedure to remove any air in the system. Closely follow the maintenance schedule found in the service manual covering the particular engine fitted.

COMPASS:

We strongly recommend that a compass be added to the equipment inventory of any boat which will be sailed offshore, as visual landmarks may not always be available to use for dead reckoning. After installation, it is important that the compass be "swung" by a qualified compass adjuster and that the resulting deviation card be kept aboard for reference while navigating. Do not allow ferrous metals (iron-steel) to be placed near the compass as this will induce errors. Always keep the compass covered when not in use to protect it from the damaging effects of sunlight.

WHEEL STEERING:

If wheel steering is selected, it is advisable to regularly check the condition of steering cables, quadrant and rudder head. Some initial stretch will occur in the cables which should be taken up using the threaded eye bolt on the quadrant. The cables should be slightly taut, but not excessively so as

too much tension on the quadrant can cause binding of the rudder head. Access to the quadrant is gained through the inspection plate on the forward side of the cockpit bridge that supports the pedestal and wheel.

In case of a failure of the wheel steering, an emergency tiller can be fitted to the rudder head through the access plate. The boat is then controlled as any tiller-steered sailboat. Nothing needs to be done to the wheel steering when the tiller is affixed. It is advisable to locate the tiller in a readily accessible area and practice fitting it at least once.

REACHING STRUT:

If a spinnaker gear package is selected as an option, it is recommended that the reaching strut assembly also be purchased. When close reaching with the pole well forward, the reaching strut will do much to reduce the strain on the afterguy. The afterguy should not be allowed to contact the upper shrouds nor should the pole be allowed to lay against the headstay as this may cause excessive loading of the shrouds or headstay.

Before each outing, it is important to check the operation and condition of the pole and pole end fittings, mast car and track, spinnaker halyards and foreguy. It is helpful to fit plastic collars on the spinnaker sheets to prevent the snap shackles from jamming the jaws of the pole, preventing tripping of the afterguy snap shackle on takedown.

BATTERY CHARGER:

If a battery charger is fitted, closely follow the manufacturer's recommendations regarding operation and service. Routinely check battery condition and pay close attention to all terminals, wires and connectors.