

Date: October 15, 2019  
To: Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors  
From: Ed Bacon [allnycyachts@gmail.com](mailto:allnycyachts@gmail.com)  
Subject: Surveys by Mitch Witt, SAMS Accredited Marine Surveyor #1027

After 35 years of living on and chartering our ragboat, a 51' cutter-rigged ketch, we decided to buy a Clorox bottle motor yacht due to health problems. We quickly centered on the Sea Ray 390 motor yacht. However, this was our first buy in 35 years and we needed expertise.

We had great experiences using SAMS surveyors for our insurance surveys so when we found our sixth Sea Ray 390 Happy Hours V in Deltaville, VA I went online and found Mitch Witt nearby. We drove 9 hours from NYC for the survey and sea trial. From the beginning, we knew Mitch was a great choice. He immediately found problems such as rudders misaligned and difficulty in turning the port shaft. He systematically went through the systems. In fact, his methodical approach paid off in the sea trial taking more time to analyze speed vs rpm and test the gear. The port after cooler cracked and smoke, steam and antifreeze were all over. We hobbled back to the dock and the broker said the seller would make the repairs and we would have a great yacht. Mitch said that both engines should be repaired and diagnostics run before the next sea trial. He felt that other problems would manifest themselves. Was he ever right. An \$86,000 repair bill. If it were not for Mitch's methodical approach, we may have bought the boat and had the after cooler blow on the way back to NYC.

After hearing Mitch's prognosis, I went online and found another Sea Ray 390 "La Belle Suisse" in Hampton, VA about 40 miles away. It was still over 9 hours from NYC but we had confidence for Mitch to make the call as to whether it was worth our while to come down and survey and sea trial it. We told him what we were interested in for the preview. He gave a thumbs up and we bussed down 9 hours for the survey and sea trial. The boat had been sitting so long that oyster colonies clogged all the intakes and underwater metals. On the sea trial, the generator went down and other problems were picked up by Mitch. Mitch's survey report recommended many fixes, particularly in the sea strainers, hoses, etc. The seller and broker fixed those conditions including filling the empty fuel tanks with 300 gallons so that Mitch could survey the tanks and fittings. Again, we had such confidence in Mitch that we didn't come down for the second sea trial. Once Mitch's recommendations were again satisfied, we trained down 9 hours and closed on the boat. Because of Mitch's thoroughness, we had an uneventful 3.5 days trip back to NYC.

Even after we arrived in NYC, Mitch was assisting on problems that were appearing. Great follow up and well past his obligations.

Mitch was the ideal surveyor for our buy. He was knowledgeable, thorough, persistent and communicated well. He surveyed the yachts as if the yachts were being purchased by him.

We have always used SAMS surveyors. They are the best as Mitch showed us once again.

Ed Bacon

All NYC Yachts

P.S. A great example of hiring a surveyor actually saving the buyer money overall.



Blue Water  
Insurance Inc.

1016 Clemons Street # 200, Jupiter, FL 33477 tel 800-866-8906 fax 561-743-8751  
email—Service@Bluewaterins.com

July 17, 2004

Mitchell Witt  
P.O. Box 241  
Seabrook, TX 77586

Re: Horizon Industrial & Marine Inc.

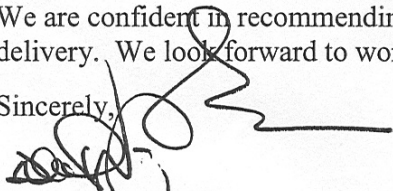
Dear Mr. Witt:

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the yacht surveys you have conducted and which we have had an opportunity to review while addressing insurance requests from clients.

The information presented has been thorough and comprehensive providing us with essential information we need to assess a vessel's condition and value. Furthermore, through our numerous conversations, your professionalism, conscientiousness and commitment to accuracy is evident and will no doubt serve as a credit to the survey profession in years to come.

We are confident in recommending your services to anyone in need of a yacht survey or delivery. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Donald W. Spink CPCU  
President

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**Subject:** LEOPARD 47 - REJECTION OF BOAT

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**From:** WilliamT (wtbblec@

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**To:** safeships2@yahoo.com;

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**Date:** Tuesday, August 2, 2016 6:35 PM

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MITCH

AS PER OUR EARLIER CONVERSATION I HAVE DECIDED TO REJECT THE LEOPARD 47 KOOL KAT.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CANDID COMMENTS AND EXCELLENT WORK AND PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE.

I WOULD RECOMMEND YOU TO ANYONE WISHING TO PURCHASE A BOAT.

THANKS AGAIN

WILLIAM BROOKS

Samuel R. Benedict

30001 Spring Branch Road, Elberta, AL, 36530, 251-967-6942

February 27, 2010

**SENT BY EMAIL**

Mr. Don Spink  
Blue Water Insurance, Inc  
Ref: Policy # LMY09 - 3841



Don,

We hope you are doing well. Now that we are coming close to winding up this nightmare claim we have had to file on our Bayliner 4788, I wanted to just take a minute to congratulate you on your selection of Mitch Witt as your Adjuster and damage Surveyor.

Considering the unpleasant nature of our dealings, Mitch has been a real pleasure to work with. He is obviously very skilled and knowledgeable regarding Marine Surveying, reconstruction and operating systems and was very generous with his time when we had questions or were dealing with a difficult situation. He was always very prompt at returning our phone calls and e-mails and seemed to have researched the problem before getting back to us. His attention to detail and perfectionist attitude was very comforting to us as we were trying to get our boat restored to its pre accident condition.

Once again I want to commend you on your use of Mitch's services and would highly recommend him in the future. He has truly been a pleasure to work with and during this whole year long process it has always been very clear to us that he wanted to help us, in any way he could, to help us get our boat restored to its original condition.

Most sincerely,

Bo & Jeannie Benedict

Re: Prevailing Wind.. Add'l info+

Thursday, May 8, 2008 8:51 AM

From: "Keith Gerow" <kgerow.servpro@verizon



-Thanks for the information. Mike has picked up the fiberglass wrap with SS wire ties made for the application. I appreciate your continued interest, professionalism and the best survey I've experienced in my 32 years of boating and the purchase of nine different boats. Best regards Keith

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From: Mitch Witt <safeships@yahoo.com>

Date: 2008/05/07 Wed PM 03:29:25 CDT

To: Keith Gerow <kgerow.servpro@verizon.net>

Subject: Prevailing Wind.. add'l info+

Mr Gerow,

You might find some answers for wrapping the short section of engine exhaust hot pipe from: [www.heatshieldproducts.com](http://www.heatshieldproducts.com)

Looks like they have both automotive and marine grade.

You are looking for some kind of flexible fiberglass wrap. Either with adhesive edges or a separate adhesive over-wrap to keep it in place.

Happy to help with any questions.

Thanks

Mitch Witt

Horizon Yacht Survey