

## **Interlux Paint Hull Cleaning Recommendations**

Once fouling has established a hold on a boat hull it will rapidly spread or "colonize" the surface. Prevention is therefore better than the cure of having to remove the fouling by scraping.

There are a number of key reasons to keep your hull free from fouling:

**Safety** - Heavy fouling growth reduces responsiveness of the craft. The added weight of the fouling can make the boat sit lower in the water than intended. This can have obvious implications in heavy weather conditions.

**Protection** - Prolonged growth of certain types of fouling can damage the substrate of the hull. For example, the natural glues used to attach organisms to the hull can damage wood and fiberglass. Fouling can also clog water intakes and cause damage to the engines.

**Speed and efficiency** - Fouling causes drag. As drag is increased, fuel consumption increases and speed is reduced even to the point where a planning hull may not be able to get on plane. For racing boats, this can be the difference between winning and losing a race.

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