

Out of the water out of trouble

Every boat owner dreams of mooring their boat at their back door ready for an instant getaway on the water when time permits

BUT, that convenience has a downside - boats left in the water need regular and expensive maintenance to avoid damage and keep them running smoothly.

Sterndrive legs, in particular, are prone to giving trouble if left for any length of time in the water, particularly if not anti-fouled.

And then there are the problems associated with failing to anti-foul, and even with toxic anti-fouling and its effects on the environment.

In the Gold Coast's warm waters, marine growth on the hull can start within days of a boat being left in the water. If not properly cleaned, this affects performance and fuel economy.

Hence the need to antifoul.

AirBerth is a revolutionary system using the buoyancy of air to lift a boat clear of the water keeping it high and dry at the back door or at a marina berth.

No more hassles of towing, launching, mooring and cleaning just to keep it out of the water.

It simply attaches to an existing pontoon or marina berth to give the boat owner instant access to their boat, and it is designed for portability as it is not hard-mounted to the pontoon or

the marina berth.

In normal circumstances, installation will take a few hours and requires no piling or construction to the site.

And operation is simple enough for even the inexperienced boatie to get it right. The system is designed to centre the boat, which means that even if you make a crooked approach onto the AirBerth, it doesn't matter.

The boat is driven onto the submerged AirBerth and the operator simply secures the positioning ropes to the boat. Hoses are attached from the portable blower box to the air control, which commences the displacement of water from the primary floats. Within minutes, the boat will centre itself and the AirBerth will shape to the boat's hull and totally rise above the water.

And, according to Andy Chan, director of AirBerth Boat Lift Storage Systems, the system is not only easy to operate,



The AirBerth system keeps boats high and dry to minimise maintenance costs

but durable. There are no submerged metal parts.

"Unlike similar metal boat lifts which will deteriorate in the marine environment, the materials used (high density polyethylene) in the manufacture of AirBerth are designed for 50 years life," Mr Chan said.

"This plastic is corrosion resistant to salt water and non-abrasive to fibreglass boat hulls. In fact it is totally friendly to the

marine environment."

AirBerth will take boats from 15-46ft and up to 10 tonnes, including shaft drives, sterndrives and twin outboards and catamarans.

Assembled in Australia, the system has a five-year material warranty and two-year warranty on the construction and 12 months on electrical components.

For more information, contact AirBerth on 55703611.