

MARINE UPHOLSTERY FABRICATION

The following component attributes are strongly recommended for all marine upholstery, to assure longevity and extended trouble-free service life of exterior marine upholstery.

- **Vinyl** - marine grade quality treated with anti-fungal and antibacterial additives to retard mildew and bacterial growth and pink mildew by-products.
- **Polyurethane Foam** - treated to inhibit fungal growth, and should pass all standard anti-fungal and antibacterial standards such as ASTM G-21 (CFFA - 120), ASTM E1428 and AATCC 147 (CFFA -300).
- **Substructure (Frame/Base)** - plywood, if used, should be marine grade treated to be mildew and rot resistant.
- **Sewing Thread** - polyester recommended 69 (3 ply) or 92 (4 ply).
- **Needle Size** - #20 for 69 (3 ply) thread, or #22 for 92 (4 ply) thread.
- **Polyethylene Film** - not recommended as an encapsulating barrier between the vinyl cover and cushioning polyurethane foam.
- **Venting** - upholstery as well as substructure should be vented to allow any trapped moisture to escape and dissipate.

BOAT OWNER RECOMMENDATIONS

It is wise that boat owners cover their boats when not in use. Allow adequate venting to avoid trapping moisture to assist in reducing the adverse effect of continuous sunlight, which can degrade upholstery components over time and shorten the service life of exterior upholstery.

Boat owners should refrain from stowing wet towels, all-weather gear, swimsuits, etc. inside their boats. Cabinets and lockers should be opened, if possible, to aid in air circulation. Moisture absorbing desiccants will aid in controlling interior moisture.