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Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why is Seabrake better than a conventional drogue or sea anchor?

Drogues and sea anchors track erratically and are inherently unreliable. In scientific testing, Seabrake displayed variable drag and true tracking. Seabrake has won an Australian Design Award and two sea safety awards.

2. Will it work on both power and sail boats?

Yes, Seabrake is designed for all vessels. The [standard range](#) caters for vessels from 25 foot and under up to 120 ft. Anything outside the standard range can be custom built to order.

3. How far behind the boat do you place the Seabrake?

Three boat lengths ... "If in doubt let more out"—it cannot be too far out.

4. How far below the surface does Seabrake travel?

Just below the surface, 3-5 ft at operational speed of 3 to 7 knots

5. Does it require a swivel or twist up the tow line?

No, Seabrake does not rotate. This is one of the features that differentiate it from other drogues – no twisted lines to untangle.

6. How much does it slow down the boat?

Normal speed is dramatically reduced, the intent is to stop acceleration. Seabrake has twice the drag of other drogues.

7. What is the ideal speed to tow it?

In very rough conditions boat speed should not exceed 7 knots.

8. Will it affect fuel economy?

No, as the vessel will be travelling slower at a constant speed and direction.

9. How much will it reduce a vessel's pitch and roll?

Dramatically, in excess of 50%.

10. Will it affect a vessels normal steering?

Yes, it will improve a vessels steering and make it more responsive.

11. Can it be used as an autopilot?

No, Seabrake will assist an autopilot but not replace it.

12. How do you know if it is working properly?

Optimum performance is when the unit is preventing surging and surfing

13. How does it work?

Water flows through the unit and creates drag. The greater the flow, the greater the braking effect.

14. How do you recover it?

Seabrake can be tripped in the same manner as a sea anchor, but the most commonly used method is to turn the vessel around and recover the tow line by anchor winch or hand. (The unit will sink when motionless).

15. Can a normal anchor line be used to tow the Seabrake?

Yes, however, minimal stretch in the line is essential. See Note 1, [Rigging Suggestions and Specifications](#).

16. Can it reduce sea sickness?

Yes, reduce the motion, reduce the sea sickness. Seabrake offers a smoother and more comfortable ride.

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