

MARINE GRADE PLUMBING SYSTEMS VALVE LUBRICATION

As a follow up to previous Tech Tips; it is important to know that while **Marelon**[®] fixings are corrosion resistant, they do require **twice yearly** lubrication maintenance. These valves should be activated on a regular schedule. The handle should be moved throughout the open/close path every thirty days. Leaving a valve open or closed without moving the handle can cause freeze-up. This is true of any valve, including bronze. The law of nature is "use it or lose it".

To lubricate ball valves and seacocks while the boat is in the water you must:

1. Close valve.
2. Remove hose from tailpipe.
3. Remove remaining water from valve/tailpipe.
4. Swab waterproof grease (water pump grease, winch grease) or LanoCote™, generously, on ball. A soda straw comes in handy.
5. Reattach hose, checking for fatigue and rusted hose clamps.
6. Activate valve a few times. When boat is hauled, you can perform steps 4-6 from outside the hull to lubricate opposite side of ball and seals.

