

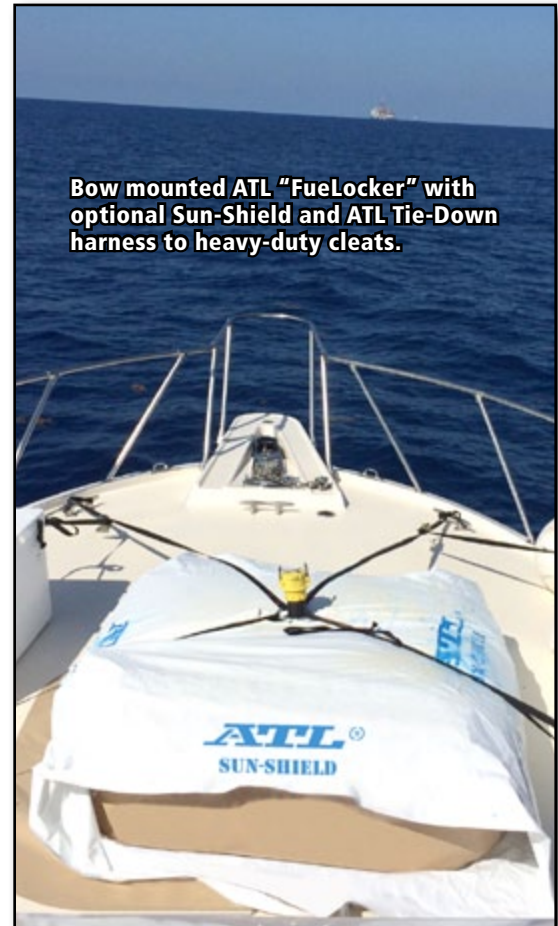
BOW & FOREDECK LOCATION CONSIDERATIONS

CAUTIONS

“Aqua-Flex”, “Aqui-Fer”, “Petro-Flex” and “FuelLocker” bladders can, and have been, used very successfully on the bows of many power boats. Most frequently a stern location is chosen, but bow-mounting often helps the craft’s balance and prevents “bow-rise.”

However, before choosing a fore-deck location, some accommodations need to be considered:

- 1.) Check with the boat-builder to assure your foredeck will support the full weight of ATL’s bladder tank. Every 100 gallons of fuel weighs about 650 lbs. and water about 850 lbs. Petro-Flex and Aqua-Flex “pillow” bladders distribute this load over a wider area than do FuelLockers and Aqui-Fers; hence the former may be your best choice.
- 2.) If the vessel’s structural support is adequate, and in most cases it is, then the next concern is “tethering” the flex-tank to prevent its movement on deck, while in port, or underway.
- 3.) ATL recommends the use of its KS-198 and KS-199 “Tie-down Kits” with high-tenacity straps. However, do not secure the ATL tie-down harness to bow railings, door hardware, man-ways or other weak attachment points. **Four heavy-duty deck cleats spaced at 90° increments, and located to assure a downward restraint force, will form the ideal arrangement.** Very Important: For heavy seas or high speeds, more restraints like cargo nets may be necessary. See photo below. Also see ATL Bulletin #DS-548 pgs. 2, 3, 4 which apply to both fuel bladders and water bladders.



Bow mounted ATL “FuelLocker” with optional Sun-Shield and ATL Tie-Down harness to heavy-duty cleats.



Customer-devised net and strap system

For sturdy retention in heavy seas or at higher speeds

- 4.) In choosing your “aux” fuel or water bladder, consider whether this filled flex-tank will, in any way, obscure the Captain’s or Helmsman’s forward vision. “Pillow” bladders are low in profile compared to “Lockers” and hence Petro-Flex and Aqua-Flex may be a better choice to minimize any view obstruction.
- 5.) Larger fuel and water bladders (over 100 gal.), located on an uneven foredeck, may also require a cargo net, belting or other restraint system to secure them adequately (see 6 below). Always transport ATL bladder tanks either full or empty; partial loads are to be avoided.

6.) If questions arise in evaluating, purchasing, positioning or using your ATL flex-tank, then contact ATL for advice or direction. Usually we can assist, but consulting a local maritime engineer or experienced outfitter is always the best choice as every craft and circumstance differs.

World Headquarters

Aero Tec Laboratories Inc.
 45 Spear Road Corporate Park
 Ramsey, New Jersey 07446-1251 USA
 Tel: +1-201-825-1400 • Fax: +1-201-825-1962
 Email: atl@atllinc.com • Web: atllinc.com

European Operations

Aero Tec Laboratories Ltd.
 ATL Technology Centre, Denbigh Road
 Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK1 1DF
 Tel: +44 (0) 1908-351700 • Fax: +44 (0) 1908-351750
 Email: atl@atlltd.com • Web: atlltd.com