

# The Blue Review

Independent Library of Applied Clean Waterfront Technology

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The Blue Review is a quarterly publication produced by the TECHBlue Center, Jacksonville, Florida. Brief notes are presented on applied technology for Clean Marinas, Sustainable Product Manufacturing and Clean Waterfront Development. As an email, the Blue Review is distributed to interested waterfront professionals in PDF format. As a printed copy, the Blue Review is sent to a select customer base for subscribing manufacturers. **Voluntary – Independent – Inter-disciplinary**

## Waterfront Demonstrations

- Beach Erosion & Replenishment
- Oil Spill Containment
- Living Shorelines

The TECHBlue Center is reviewing waterfront sites of recent environmental hazards. By example, sites are monitored which may have a significant impact on waterfront improvement.

Performance data is collected to develop benchmarks and standards to protect the waterfront and preserve marine habitats.

Demonstration sites are solicited to showcase the emergence of clean waterfront technologies.

[Link to Waterfront Alliances](#)

## Trade Industry Workshops

The TECHBlue Center participates in trade industry workshops which focus on clean waterfront construction and improvement. Information is available on training property owners, engineers, contractors, manufacturers and public interest groups. [Link to Workshops](#)



## FL Clean Marina Highlights

- Sadler Marina & Boatyard, Jacksonville, FL
- Harbour Towne Marina, Dania Beach, FL

The Florida Clean Marina program has a long history of reviewing clean waterfront solutions.

Site summaries and formats of marina master plans are archived by TECHBlue Center. Review how to check the environmental condition of your waterfront.

[Link to Marina Reviews](#)

## Testing Note

TECHBlue will facilitate independent testing of materials and components; and report on the monitoring process and advantages of independent data. [Link to Product Testing](#)

## Sustainable Product Reviews

Now that many trade industries have product specs which include information on environmental compliance, waterfront product manufacturers should 'raise the bar'.

Companies producing products with proven extended warranties and use histories are usually industry leaders. Those same companies are developing supply chains which help increase market share. [Link to Product Review](#)



## Waterfront Structure Notes

TECHBlue has archived data on technologies which aid the development of sustainable waterfront buildings.

Well planned designs for drystack boat storage can improve site drainage and wind load performance

[Link to Drystack Library](#)

## Waterfront Glossary Selection

**ROS** Report On Sustainability - A report designed to provide information that will improve public dialog and decision making on environmental concerns. "The Report On Waterfront Sustainability" uses industry indicators and clean water standards to help establish a quantitative baseline for measuring research and development progress in the United States. [Link to Glossary](#)

## The Bottom Line - Money Note

A number of major corporations now have 'Sustainable Programs' and environmental non-profit foundations to assist in the research of clean water technology.

[Link to How-To-Use](#)



## Waterfront Purchasing Policies Save Money

Reprinted from Florida Marina Contractors – The Anchor

Something which may ‘fly-under-the-radar’, in discussions on clean water, are company “purchasing policies”. Aside from an open commitment to environmental management, the single most telling ingredient in a sound environmental management system (EMS) is the criteria used to purchase products and equipment – and, in the world of clean water, the single most telling ingredient in choosing ‘sustainable’ products and equipment is historical evidence. Company size and budget is not important. Small and large companies are on equal footing. Cost benefits and quality control are paramount, whether you buy one item or a truck load.

When you outline your need (your emergency, your water body) there may continue to be specific applications which change product effectiveness. Design specifications, testing criteria and construction practices, which are used to justify long term costs, may become meaningless in the light of warranty compliance. If the product and application do not perform, cost differences cannot be justified.

Unfortunately and too often there is a rush to comply (“just make sure I am in compliance, and the cost is low”). The mantra of ‘efficiency equals sustainability’ is overtaken by cost factors alone.

Good news, reviewing product history is the least expensive, most productive part of product review. Cream will rise to the top. If ‘the product does what it says it does’, there is good likelihood the manufacturer is an industry leader and maintains excellent customer service procedures. You can feel secure in projecting long term costs and conforming to management standards.

By example, consider a set of waterfront building specifications which must perform under extreme wind loads (i.e. covered docks, boathouse, drystack buildings). A total ‘sustainable’ project package comes into play. The engineering and design ‘modeling’ conform to wind loads. Product ‘testing’ exceeds specification, and contractors install the structure using ‘best management practices’. At the end of the day, the structure may still fail. Here are some red flags which help prevent problems:

1. Testing protocols are expensive, and many manufacturers do not maintain adequate quality control procedures. Does the manufacturer outline performance specs and extend warranties?
2. Are warranties adapted from components and materials rather than from the actual application? It is of no use to have 30 year warranty on a product attached with a fastener which will fail in one year.
3. Are excuses made for past failures? Are previous projects, products and applications ‘still standing’?

In summary -- Internal reporting on product performance is the least expensive procedure for your business and you will be reward with extended customer satisfaction.

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