

FISHERMEN'S NEWS

July 2008

The Advocate for the Independent Fisherman

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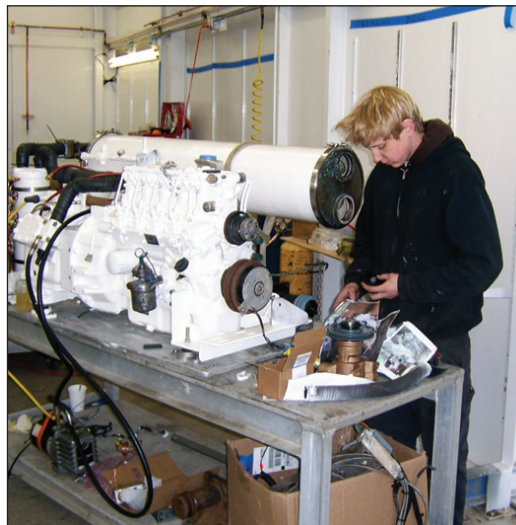
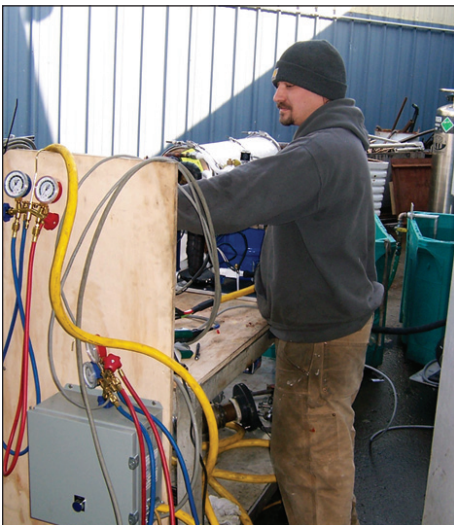
Training Legacy

By David Rowland

Refrigeration in smaller vessels is becoming a necessity. Some fish packers no longer accept unrefrigerated product. Other packers may offer a reduced price for landed fish if

ation equipment onboard vessels on the West Coast and Alaska. Integrated manufactures refrigerated seawater systems (RSW systems), freezers, and other related equipment. They've developed an

summer for the last five years, working with Pete Regan. Ryan built a brand new house and shop in Naknek, after living in a converted shipping container the first four years.



(Left) Ryan Bedell testing a refrigeration system. (Middle) Jacob Lundli refurbishing a diesel powered refrigeration system. (Right) Rodney Intagliata cutting tube stock for a refrigeration system.

not refrigerated onboard. Fish prices in today's market dictate a high level of quality in the retail product. Quality of refrigerated wild fish, along with the lack of contaminants found in farmed fish results in a higher price for landed catches. The day may be coming when non-refrigerated product may not be saleable at the dock.

Integrated Marine Systems Inc. (IMS) of Port Townsend, Washington has taken a proactive approach to assist fishermen with maintenance of refriger-

apprenticeship program to train maintenance technicians who will locate on the fishing grounds during the season. Currently, three young men are undergoing on-the-job training at Integrated's Port Townsend manufacturing plant. After training in all the phases of manufacturing refrigeration systems, these young men will relocate to several Alaskan ports to provide a high level of service at those locations.

Ryan Bedell, age 26, lived in Florida, traveling to Naknek, Alaska each

Ryan is quick to express his thoughts about working in Alaska, and is anxious to put his knowledge and training to work. He enjoys the feeling of freedom in Naknek, located on Bristol Bay, and at the heart of the Bristol Bay salmon fisheries. After reflecting upon his first year on the Bay, Ryan swore he'd never go back. This year will be his sixth season.

Jacob Lundli, age 20, is the youngest of the trio. After fishing with his dad and grandfather for twelve years, principally seining and longlining out of Cordo-

va, Alaska, Jacob decided to learn some of the mechanical basics of the fishing industry. He attended Wyoming Technical Institute at Laramie, earning a degree in diesel technology. After another month of training at IMS, his plans are to go to Cordova or Naknek and work at maintaining or installing refrigeration systems on fishing vessels.

The old man of the trio is Rodney Intagliata, at age 35, a fisherman and tenderman since 1994. He lives in Port Townsend in the off-season. Rod can be found operating a tender, buying fish during the summer season out of Chignik, Alaska. Learning refrigeration was important, due to the remote location of the fishery, and the lack of support

for refrigeration equipment in Chignik. Knowledge of the systems means he can help support local fishermen when they have RSW problems.

Rodney was quick to point out boats using ice generally received less money for their catches. RSW systems help assure a higher level of quality when landing a catch. According to Rodney, "I'm just there to help fishermen, and to teach the basics of maintenance to them and their crew. He looks forward to the off-season and time in Port Townsend with his six-year-old son.

IMS has great material available for the fisherman researching installation of an RSW system. "The Titanium Chiller, an upgrade to a cupro-nickel system,

is built for lifetime service," according to Mark Burn. The titanium chiller has standard pipe flanges, providing easy connections. The chillers are available in sizes ranging from 7.5-ton to 50-ton capacities.

IMS has also introduced a hatch-mounted freezing system to maintain frozen-at-sea products. The freezing systems are configured to mount directly onto a hatch cover. Plug in power and condenser water, and the unit is ready to freeze a catch on board.

According to Burn, "IMS will continue training technicians as needed to service fishermen in Alaska and other remote areas, as that is the best way to support our products." 🐟

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