Household Size Bowl for the Head

Article by John Amann, C350 # 347, "Just Add Wind"

Now there's an interesting title for an article. This is an upgrade I should have done a long time ago and will surely please all the admiral's on board. With very little investigation I found out there are two sizes of bowls available for my Raritan head. The "marine" size is what comes standard on our C350's. They also make a "household" size bowl. After a little more research I found the best deal at BoatFix.com. The new bowl, Raritan part #1244W, and a new gasket, part #1234 were less than $150.00. I picked up a new toilet seat at Home Depot for $12.00. I also decided to change the joker valve, part #C254 for another $14.00. This valve prevents back flow from the holding tank into the bowl and should be replaced every few years.

Replacement was pretty easy. First, run several gallons of fresh water through the bowl. You need to be a little flexible to reach around the back of the bowl to remove one of four nuts holding the bowl to the base. A 7/16" open end wrench did the trick. I decided to remove the bowl from the base before removing the water line the feeds the top rear of the bowl. Once the bowl is off the base and the water line removed you have to take the elbow off the original bowl and attach to the new one. With the bowl off it is pretty easy to replace the joker valve. There are four phillips head screws that secure a flange at the lower right side of the base. Remove the flange and the waste line. The valve is directly behind the flange and just slides out. Install replacement and re- attach the flange.
Next, install the new bowl gasket and re- attach the hose to the back of the new bowl. There are four plastic spacers that have to be moved from the old bowl to the new. Place the new bowl on the base and slide the spacers over the studs. Reinstall the nuts on the studs and tighten gradually moving in a clockwise direction. Be careful not to over tighten because this could possibly crack the bowl. The fit is a little tight at the top of the bowl where the fitting at the rear of the bowl will rest right against the panel. Last thing you need to install is the new toilet seat. There is now noticeable interference in the head from the larger bowl. Not sure why Catalina doesn't offer this as a factory option.

Photo 1 – Shows completed installation and fit of bowl in the space.



Photo 2 – Shows the bowl attachment and the joker valve flange

