



frequently asked questions

Hydra Hercules Depth

"I only get depth readings on one tack"

Things to check for:

If the system is reading depths correctly on one tack but not the other, this is almost certainly due to the location of the depth transducer in the hull. The transducer signal radiates out from the transducer face at an angle of 15° each side from the vertical; i.e. a 30° cone. This is to ensure that at least some of the depth signal hits the seabed at normal angles of heel. However, if the depth transducer has been installed in the hull where the incline is particularly steep, this will prevent the transducer from receiving the return echo at certain heel angles.

A similar analogy to this would be to shine a torch directly into a mirror. Most of the light will reflect back out directly into the torch. However, if the torch angle is slowly increased, the reflected beam will start to miss the torch.

If the depth transducer misses the return echo, the display will show three dashes. This problem can only be overcome by relocating the transducer more centrally in the hull. Alternatively, a better method is to install two transducers, and use a B&G Automatic Change Over Switch to automatically select the transducer that is the lowest (leeward) in the water.

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