



## Why polish propellers?

The sole purpose of polishing a propeller underwater is to reduce the surface roughness. The “bottom line” for the customer depends on the cost of the service deducted from the financial savings resulting from the polish. Provided the job is done properly, the cost of the underwater polish will only be a small proportion of the fuel savings, and therefore the most important factor to be considered by the customer is the quality of the polishing.

## How do we polish propellers underwater?

A super smooth surface is inhospitable to marine organisms as well as being beneficial to the efficiency of the propeller. UMC have constantly improved the standard of their surface finish. A recent enhancement to meet stringent military requirements involved a major redesign to provide a higher power rating combined with exceptionally fine abrasives.

Our equipment provides a suction force of 100kg to the propeller surface but can be manoeuvred over the blade face easily by the diver. We can use abrasive sizes down to 360-grade grit to produce a surface finish of 0.5µ Ra.

*Above: UMC designed propeller polishing hand motor (top first). Typical fouling on the surface of a rough propeller (second). UMC diver conducting underwater propeller polish (third) and the blade after super polishing (fourth).*

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