

## KoverKlamp Testimonial

After recently assembling my KoverKlamp framework in anticipation of covering my 34 foot sailboat for another winter stored outside on the shores of Lake Erie, I realized that if any of the components broke I would have no spare clamps to permit completion of the setup. So I Googled "KoverKlamp" to find out if the company was still in existence.

I worried that it might not be because my framework system is very old and I have not observed KoverKlamps in use on any other boats in my marina. I was quite pleased to find the company is still going strong, with a website at [http://www.koverklampframes.com/boat\\_cover\\_framing.html](http://www.koverklampframes.com/boat_cover_framing.html). Imagine my surprise when a video I watched on the website suggested that the initial cost of the system is justified "because it should last for as much as 15 years." Boy what an understatement that is! The framework on my boat is at least 28 years old and still going strong.

I don't know its exact age because it was acquired and constructed by a friend in the 1980's. When he developed rotator cuff issues about 10 years later that prevented him from raising his arm above his shoulder, he reverted to paying for annual shrink-wrapping of his boat and gave the framework to me because I had a later model, but identical sized, boat.

I recognized that some components of the system as described in the current website video are different than my system. During a follow-up phone call, the company owner's description of when these components were upgraded is what has led me to conclude that my framework must be at least 28 years old if not slightly older.

It is a wonderful system and, although it would be prudent for me to acquire some spare clamps just in case, to date none of the components of this 28-year-old system have failed. My situation is somewhat unique because the framework was inherited from prior use on an identically sized boat. It would not be typical for an original owner to keep the same boat for 28 years. We all know that every boat owner seems always to covet a bigger boat. But acquiring a different boat would seem to involve just buying more metal conduit and bending it to match the configuration of the new boat. The clamps would continue to work with a new frame and the conduit is but a minor portion of the total cost. And some sections of the original frame should be able to be cut and repurposed for shorter components of the new.

So it seems to me that it would be reasonable to amortize the initial investment in a KoverKlamp system over a lifetime of boating. I have attached photographs of my 28 year old system ready to be covered for another winter.

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