



ADJUSTABLE SOLAR PANEL BRACKET INSTALLATION

The ASPB may be placed on any convenient stanchion. Those in the aft 1/3 of the boat work well. The 1" stainless steel (s.s.) tubing has two 1-11/4" bolts through it that sit and ride on top of the brackets. Attach the brackets with the hose clamp provided to the desired stanchion. The tubing has been drilled at convenient locations for the 1/4-20 x 11/4" to fit. If these locations interfere with easy access to the stanchion, additional holes can be drilled at an appropriate height.

Each bracket has a 1/4-20 nut welded to it, and a 1/4-20 x 5/8" hex head bolt with a nut on it. By tightening this bolt into the 1" tubing and tightening the nut against the welded nut, the ASPB is locked in place. This allows adjustment forward to aft. You should also tie a 3/16" to 1/4" line, P, from the outer end of the 1" s.s. tubing to a cleat on each end of the boat. In roly anchorages the tightening bolt is not enough to keep the 1" tubing from moving fore and aft.

Two 1-1/2" x 3/8" s.s. bars are supplied with each mount. A clamp is mounted on each bar with three 10-32 x 1" bolts. At 25 to 35% of the length of the solar panels, attach the s.s. bar to the bottom of the solar panel frame with two 1/4-20 x 3/4" hex head bolts. You must drill the frame of the solar panel to align with the s.s. bar holes. All bolts come with nylon stop nuts. We recommend you use the Loctite 271 on all bolts when assembling the ASPB.

The outer end of the horizontal part of the 1" s.s. tubing has a 1-1/4" bolt through it to prevent the solar panel and clamps from coming off should the clamps become loose. Although not supplied, we recommend you install a 1/16" to 1/8" S.S. safety cable from the solar panel frame to the stanchion or other non movable part. This will prevent the panel from dropping overboard should the plastic bracket come loose and the solar panel fall off the 1" tubing.

DAILY ADJUSTMENTS

If aboard the boat during the day, the panels should be repositioned every 4 hours to keep them perpendicular to the sun. This process will allow the panels to generate peak output for many more hours during the day, and provide 30 to 40 % more power than normally available from fixed panels.

At the end of the day reposition for sunrise the next morning. This will start higher output early in the day and you can sleep later knowing the solar panels are doing their utmost.

