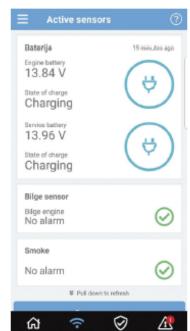# Boat Care app delivers inside story

In early October last year, following many months of testing, Marinacloud launched its Proactive Boat Care system at Marina Punat in Croatia. Delighted with the swift take up at the marina, Marinacloud presented the new product in the Marina & Yard Pavilion (MYP) at Metstrade in November where Kresimir Zic told *Marina World* that over ten enquiries were received from marinas and significant interest expressed by would-be distributors.

Proactive Boat Care is an intelligent system that relies on smart Internet of Things (IoT) sensors to keep a check on the bilge and battery, and to generate alerts if smoke or excessive heat is detected.
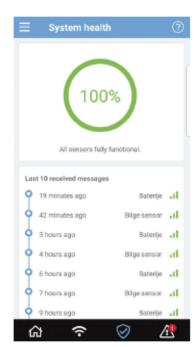
The system, developed by a marina management team that knows first-hand about the challenge of protecting boats in a marina, complements the regular 'dock walk' outside boat inspection by revealing information on what is actually happening inside. Its continuous monitoring warns the boat owner and marina in the event of a potential hazard.

There are three key components:
- Sensors – boat owners equip their boats with sensors bought in the marina, via a distributor or on the webshop.
- Communication – the sensors communicate via the cutting-edge IoT network SigFox, which already covers most of Europe. The network is established and maintained by the concessionaire.
- Alerts – the marina uses the Marinacloud app to receive and process alerts. These are currently forwarded to the emergency service via mail but forwarding by voice mail and SMS options will soon be introduced. Boat owners are informed via a mobile app and email.

The three most frequent causes of damage and disaster are water intrusion, fire and battery damage. The bilge sensor monitors the bilge and detects the presence of water; the boat monitoring sensor monitors the batteries (under/over voltage) and the voltage for proper maintenance; and the smoke detector warns if smoke or increased temperature are detected in the boat cabin, indicating a potential fire hazard.

Within 15 days of being made available at Marina Punat, over 300 users had registered via mobile app, and operators enquiring at Metstrade represented marinas in Portugal, Australia, France, Italy, the USA and the Netherlands.
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