

Title (en)  
Drive means and a boat having drive means

Title (de)  
Antriebssystem und angetriebenes Boot

Title (fr)  
Système d'actionnement et bateau propulsé

Publication  
**EP 0811550 B1 20020313 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 97303818 A 19970604**

Priority  
GB 9611586 A 19960604

Abstract (en)  
[origin: EP0811550A2] The invention provides drive means for a boat comprising a propeller (32), a propeller shaft (30) and a motor (28) for driving the propeller shaft (30), the motor (28) and at least part of the propeller shaft (30) being housed within a cavity (20) defined by a keel portion (18) attachable to or forming part of the hull of the boat. The motor (28) has flexible connectors (37) for connection to an engine or power pack (38) whose position with respect to the motor (28) can be selected or adjusted whilst remaining connected to the motor (28). The invention also provides a method of converting an existing boat into a boat incorporating such drive means, comprising the steps of forming an aperture in the hull of the boat corresponding to the shape of the keel portion (18), adapting the keel portion (18) to the shape of the hull and attaching the keel portion (18) to the hull so as to close and seal the aperture. The provision of drive means of this type removes at least some of the components of the drive means from the interior of the boat and provides additional directional stability to the boat. <IMAGE>

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