

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2012 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

**J0130** 

## **Project Title**

# **Ducted Propeller Efficiency**

**Abstract Objectives/Goals** 

The objective is to determine if a marine propeller operating in a duct is more efficient than one without? If so, how long should the duct be to make it most efficient?

#### Methods/Materials

I dropped a scale three blade propeller with four different duct lengths through a tank of water 22 inches deep and counted the number of revolutions the propeller spun on a threaded shaft. Each propeller/ duct assembly was dropped 20 times and the revolutions made by the propeller were counted to within 1/21 of a revolution.

### **Results**

I found that a propeller has a greater efficiency with a duct rather than without one. I also found that the longer the duct the greater the efficiency. The data for a 3 inch ducted demonstrated a 12% increase in efficiency.

## **Conclusions/Discussion**

My conclusion is that a propeller has a greater efficiency with a duct rather than without one. I also found that, to a point, the longer the duct the greater the efficiency.

# **Summary Statement**

My project is to determine if a ducted propeller is more efficient than a non-ducted propeller.

## Help Received

Father helped me build propeller mount.