New Anchors by XYZ, Ancora Latina, and Others

Since our last new anchor test (January 2008), several products have emerged on the market and others are expected out in early 2009. *Practical Sailor* plans to test these and other new anchors for an upcoming review.

XYZ Omega

Anchor

The South American company, Ancora Latina, recently released its latest generation of the Raya anchor.

It claims to be a quick-setting, self-righting anchor with 34 to 37 percent of its total weight in the tip for more effective bottom penetration.

While the French-made Brake anchor, a fixed plow-type anchor, is not new to the market, a 100-kilogram version of the anchor is being launched this month at the Paris Boat Show. According to its manufacturer, Mondial Plaisance Industrie (MPI), the Brake is designed for sand-mud and hard-sand bottoms.

Another MPI anchor that we plan to test is the Topgard, a unique anchor with plow-shaped flukes. The fluke anchor, when lying on its side, has the benefit of the plows to secure the holding when the anchor inclines.

According to MPI, this new shape "compensates for the weak-

nesses inherent in the fluke-type anchors."

The Omega is the latest release from XYZ Anchors. We tested its older sibling,

the XYZ Extreme, in the January 2008 update, and rated its setting ability as Excellent.

The Omega is available in 316 marine-grade polished stainless steel or hot-dip galvanized steel. Its new design offers 360-degree vertical shank rotation and 360-degree horizontal fluke rotation.

According to XYZ Anchors, the wheels are in motion for an early 2009 launch of the company's new Triangle anchor. Details were not available at press time, but it's on our radar for the next round of anchor testing.

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