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August 14, 2006

RALPH GETS TV, THE AMAZING KVH M3



It doesn't even look as silly as I thought it would ([bigger here](#)) on my 25' *Ralph* ([still for sale, people!](#)). The KVH M3 Satellite TV dome is some svelte at less than 18" high and 16" in diameter, supposedly the world's [smallest fully stabilized antenna system](#). But, think about it, it takes more than small size to succeed on a smaller boat; staying locked onto, say, a DirectTV satellite (the only service so far supported) is harder when a boat's motion is quicker. Yet I did donuts in *Ralph*, even got sideways in a wake that snap rolled me so badly I almost fell down... and the M3 retained lock. It was also incredibly easy to install. I'll have more on this impressive (if somewhat pricey) unit soon, but for now will close with an image of how the M3 output looks on the E-120. It's [bigger here](#), but do note that a still picture of video never does it complete justice. This was very sharp, saturated, and smooth moving TV.

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Looks like a super system, but way beyond the price range of most yachtspeople. KVH does great stuff.

How about a test of the FollowMeTV which is about 15% the cost. This seems affordable and something I would like to hear your review of. I suspect it is not as good as holding the signal... but for most situations.. at anchor or at a dock.. it would seem to be more than adequate. Who is watching TV us sloppy seas pounding to windward or surfing off following seas??

What say you?

Jef
sv Shiva
Contest 36s

Posted by: DefJef at August 15, 2006 07:08 AM

uhhhhh, does Ralph come with the kvh?

Posted by: [Eli](#) at August 15, 2006 08:15 AM

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Almost anything is possible, Eli (though a reasonable surcharge may apply).

Posted by: [Ben](#) at August 15, 2006 08:24 AM

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