## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Examiner:

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Applicant:

**Brunswick Corporation** 

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Title: DETECTION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR A PROPELLER DRIVEN MARINE VESSEL WITH A FALSE TRIGGERING PREVENTION

**CAPABILITY** 

## RELATED ART STATEMENT

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

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Submitted herewith are the following copies of related art which are shown on attached form PTO-1449 and which constitute the closest art of which applicant(s) is/are aware relating to the invention of the above-identified application. Except for the internet sites described below, this related art is described in the specification of the aboveidentified application.

A significant quantity of information relating to propeller technology can be obtained from the Internet. A website (http://www.rbbi.com) contains several articles regarding detection devices for marine vessels. One particular article discusses United States patent number 6,354,892 which is described above. In an article entitled "What if???", the author observes that a system that senses people in the area of a propeller can be beneficial. A different article on that same website, entitled "Disciplines Sensing Presence" describes various applications in which sensors can be used to detect the presence of people or animals.

In an article entitled "RBBI Inventions" on that same website (http://www.rbbi.com) many inventions are described. One of those inventions describes the possibility that injury to humans can occur when a boat is stopped or backing up and the propeller is in gear. It also mentions several types of non-contact sensors, such as light sensors, motion sensors, lasers, heat sensors, etc. These are used to detect things and people in certain areas. This section of the article then poses a question, with regard to this sensing technology, concerning the transom area of a boat and a danger zone near the propeller. In this same paragraph, the article proposes that the system be electronically capable of shifting the gears to neutral, setting off an alarm, or handling the situation in some other way. It suggests that a "black box" with a few sensors might be used for these purposes. This article also mentions several concepts relating to the use of radar.

This submission of related art is not a representation that a prior art search has been made or that the disclosed art is the closest related art to the present invention.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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