

# SCOUT Projects: *Replacement Head*

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*m/v SCOUT (Great Harbour N37)*

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## Description

Replace the complicated Vacu-Flush head system with a simpler, electronically-controlled one.

## Parts Ordered

1. Raritan Atlantes Freedom with vortex-vac head, elongated freshwater model
2. Raritan Smart switch wall panel
3. Various 1-1/2" hose clamps, thru-hull sealant

## Assembly

The bulk of the work was removing all of the Vacu-flush components and then dealing with the ensuing "aftermath".

Once that was done and cleaned up, the remainder of the install was very straightforward. I re-used the existing freshwater line which fit directly onto the inlet of the toilet assembly.

The waste hose that led from the output port on the vacuum generator (mine was in the alley under the 2<sup>nd</sup> stateroom) and went to the tank was long enough to route to the new toilet outlet port. I didn't have to change anything about the tank connection.

The outlet port was all the way against the wall as the toilet sits on the pedestal, so I did have to cut a new hole down through the pedestal and sub-floor.

The nice thing about the new head is that it is all self-contained and has a macerating function before it even starts down the hose to the holding tank. Everything is right there under the toilet seat.

There was already a pedestal in the head, but I was worried about there being enough fore and aft room for the new elongated bowl. Turned out it was JUST long enough.



The “smart” wall switch is pretty slick. There is a controller module just inside the cabinet that the switch goes to – then wiring underneath the pedestal to the pump motor and freshwater solenoid. It has a programmable automated empty/fill/flush/fill/flush/final-fill sequence that is executed with a single press of the “Normal” flush button. The water fill amounts for each phase are programmable right at the switch panel. There are also other buttons for water saver, empty-only, etc.



## Completion

Well, it's not quite complete – I still have to trim just a bit off the front edge of the shelf above. The elongated lid bumps up against it when it is all the way up and vertical. It is fine to use in the meantime, though.

Very happy with everything so far. No long-term data yet, but it seems so much simpler than all of the pieces-parts of the Vacu-flush system. Just freshwater-in, macerated contents-out. One hose to the tank. All from right there under the bowl. It is fairly quiet as well, there is some “vortex” gurgling and motor noise during a flush, but no more “thump-thump-thump” for 20 seconds afterwards.

