



Most *PBR* readers take meticulous care of their boats, faithfully cleaning and waxing the hull to keep it in boat-show condition. But sometimes life gets in the way, and the hull may be (dare we say) neglected for a season. In fact, the gelcoat could be so far gone that even a good wax (we recommend Collinite paste wax, see October 2004 issue) might have a tough time bringing her back to life.

Enter the hull restorer. These products consist of resins of higher molecular weight that provide harder and more durable film than can be achieved with wax. Hull restorers consist of water-based emulsions of acrylic or acrylic/urethane resins. The resins are in the form of tiny droplets that are suspended in water. When applied, the water evaporates and the droplets flow together to form clear films. These emulsions dry rapidly and require multiple coats.

In late 2003, we tried three hull restorers, applying them to our Neptune 212 (see above). We divided the boat into three sections

and each restorer was applied to a section. Poli Glow was applied to the bow. Vertglas was used on the hull sides, amidships. And we coated the aft hull sides with New Glass 2.

We realize that different areas of the boat may have endured more of a beating from the sun than others. For instance, the flared sections of the bow are somewhat more protected from the

**Below:** *These hull restorers utilize a thin acrylic film coating to bring a high-gloss sheen to a weathered gelcoat. From left to right: Poli Glow, Vertglas and New Glass 2. Right:* *Our initial report published in December 2004 was critical of the Vertglas' straight-edged applicator, which made it difficult to apply the product to radiused areas.*



sun than the flat sections of the hull sides. But after three years, every inch of the hull endured its fair share of sun and weather, therefore we think the findings of this test are useful.

### What We Found

We actually never expected any of the products to last for three years. They are supposed to be re-applied after one or two seasons. But we were pleasantly surprised when we inspected the boat this fall, discovering that one section was actually still “shiny.” The Poli Glow’s acrylic sheen is still clinging to the gelcoat. The bow of the boat looks pretty good.

The other sections, those coated with Vertglas and New Glass 2, need some help. The Vertglas sections are spotty. The clear coating has come off on some parts, and the parts where it remains have no visible shine. It appears that most of the New Glass-2 is gone. The stern sections are dull, with no shine.

Vertglas and Poli Glow hull restorers have not changed since our 2003 test. They use the same formulas and their kits come with the same applicators. There have been big changes over at New Glass 2, according to the new owner Thom Goff. The acrylic solids—the stuff that makes the hull shiny—have been upped by 10 percent; the applicator and the labeling and directions have been improved; and the company now offers a cleanser



	POLI GLOW	VERTGLAS	NEW GLASS 2
PRICE/SIZE	\$60	\$67	\$56
PRICE SOURCE	poliglowproducts.com	lovetmarine.com	newglass2.com
CONTENTS	32 oz. Poli Glow, 7" applicator, 32 oz. Poli Prep, scrubby pad, gloves	16 oz. oxidation Remover, 8 oz. boat wash, 16 oz. color restorer/sealer, 8 oz. sealer remover, 4" applicator, manual	XX oz. New Glass (\$35), Pre-Treat cleaner (\$15), applicator (\$6), all sold separately.
RATING	Excellent	Good	Fair

(Pre-Treat) to prep the area that will be restored. Pre-Treat can also remove acrylic coatings. Vertglas and Poli Glow also provide cleaners/removers.

## Conclusions

All three hull restorers make it clear that surface preparation is essential to their product's success. This means that if you miss a streak of dirt or grease, that blemish will become trapped under the hull restorer. Fortunately, our tester did an excellent job cleaning the hull before

application, so there is no spotting on the Neptune.

Recommending Poli Glow is a no-brainer. It's still hanging around after baking in the Florida sun for three years. And as we reported in 2003, it comes with a wide variety of applicators, clear directions, and an effective cleanser. But the apparent improvements over at New Glass 2 call for another test. We'll take them all off and re-apply all three to the same hull sections. ■



*Above: The clear sheen of the Poli Glow is still visible on our test boat. The Vertglas coating is spotty.*

**Poli Glow**, 800/922-5013, [poliglowproducts.com](http://poliglowproducts.com)  
**Vertglas (Lovett Marine)**, 800/673-5976, [lovetmarine.com](http://lovetmarine.com)  
**New Glass 2**, 800/785-7675, [newglass2.com](http://newglass2.com)