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**“Made in Plymouth: Winch company making a good haul “**

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PLYMOUTH — Electra-Dyne Co.'s winches can be found on crabbers in Alaska and research ships in the Antarctica, on shrimp boats in the Gulf of Mexico and trawlers operating in Europe.

And, of course, they're on lobster boats in New England.

“There are a lot of different applications,” said Judy Maccaferri, one of the three operators of the company. The winches are electrically operated pulley systems that haul equipment off the ocean floor.

Their uses are varied — some people use them to pull boats from trailers — but Electra-Dyne's product is state-of-the-art in the industry.

Judy Maccaferri, her daughter Jill Maccaferri and their neighbor, Larry MacKenzie, build their product in a small shop next to the Maccaferri's Plymouth home.

MacKenzie handles engineering duties: building the winches and designing others to meet special specifications.

“Once the season starts, I can build six or seven a day,” he said. “I'm a machine.” Judy Maccaferri serves primarily as the bookkeeper and Jill Maccaferri does just about everything else.

The winches are a fairly simple concept for quickly hauling in the rope attached to fishing traps such as lobster or crab pots. The fisherman snags the end of the line which is attached to a floating buoy. The line is wrapped around the 12-volt electric winch's drum and the line is hauled in pulling the pot to the surface.

Ten-inch haulers can pull in line at 290 feet a minute and a 12-inch hauler can pull in 400 feet a minute. There are also different gear ratios if more strength is needed.

The winches sell from \$1,000 to \$1,200.

Judy says they'll sell five to 10 a month during the busy season. That, however, can be year-round.

“Different parts of the country have different seasons,” she said.

“People who know us think we're the best,” added Jill. “We love it when someone in a new area buys one of our haulers and then their buddies see how great it works and want one of their own.”

The business started 30 years ago when Judy's father bought the business from the former owner. It has been in the immediate family ever since.

“There are a few other companies that do this, but we think our product is superior to theirs,” said Jill.