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THE COMPLETE BOOK OF BOATS





Year in Review

Best of Power & Sail





ISSUE 461 \$9.95 JAN 22 -FEB 18, 2015







2008 NAUTICA 19 WIDE BODY Diesel jet. 260hp Yanmar, Dunbier braked traile Licensed to carry 16. **QLD 0412 841 429**

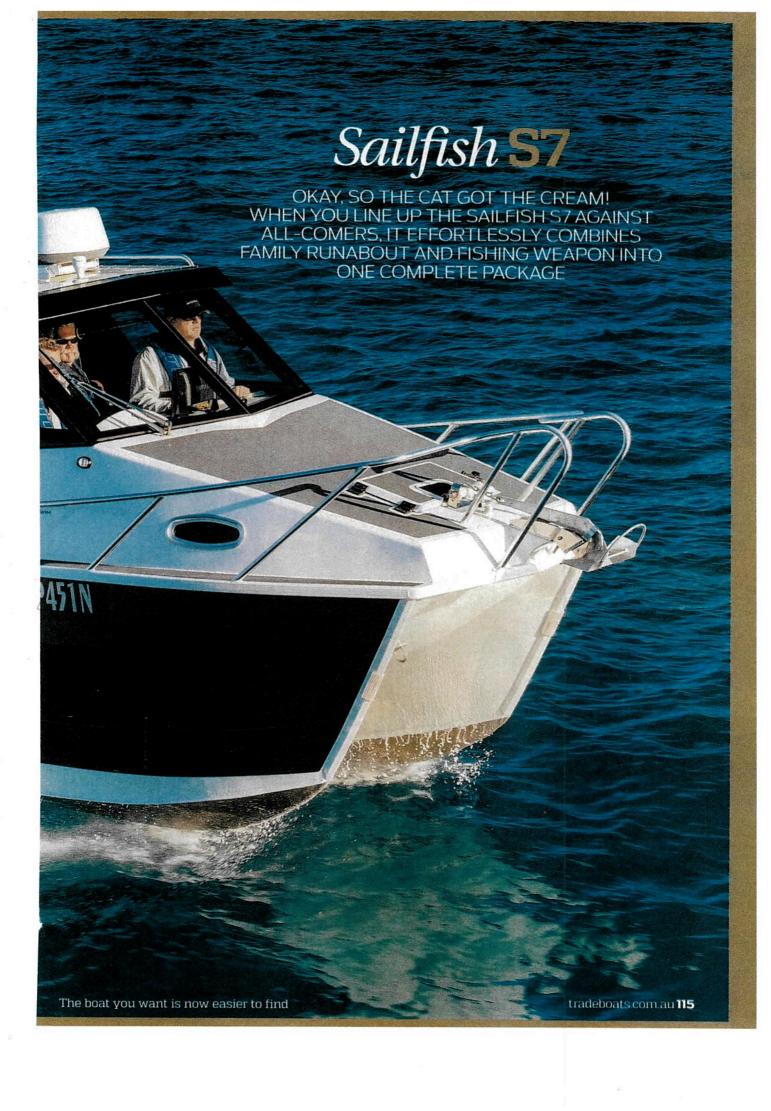


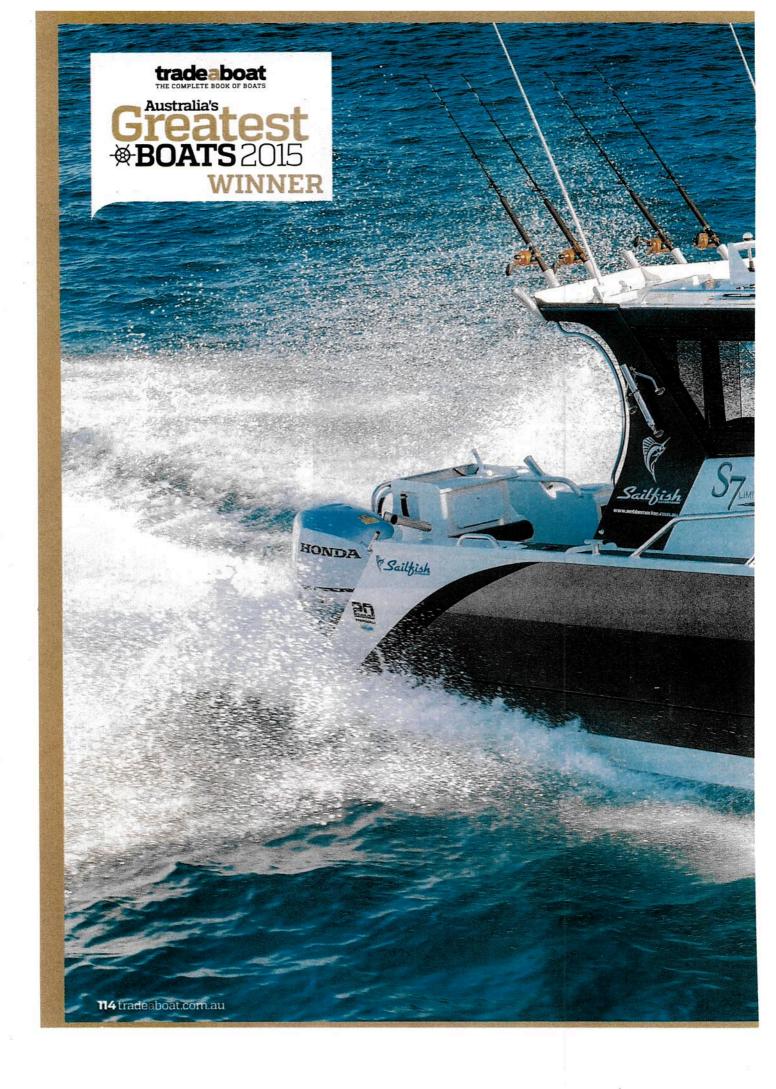
2008 BAYLINER DISCOVERY 195 BOWRIDER Immaculate, less than 40 hours freshwater-only use. Suit fastidious buyer. VIC 0407 191 043

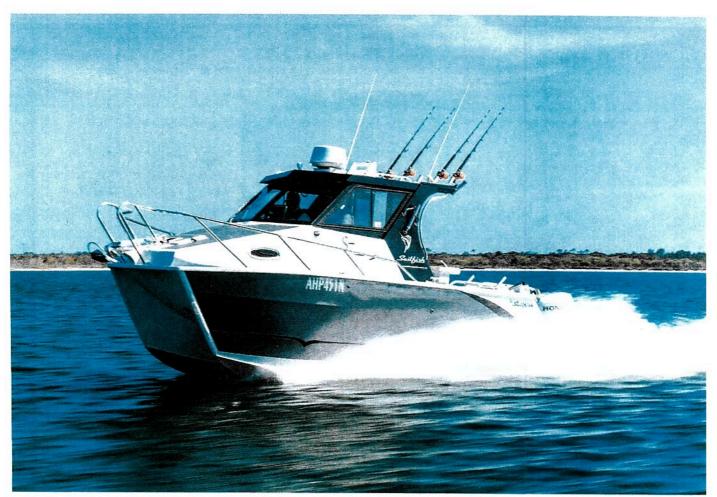


The boat you want is now easier to find













OPPOSITE If the vast aft deck isn't enough fishing real estate for you, the walkthrough between the Hondas provides perhaps the best angling spot. ABOVE In profile, it's plain to see the Sailfish is built to tackle anything the ocean can dish up. FAR LEFT The tunnel between the hulls provides a super-soft ride as the fine bows carve their way. LEFT The S7's cabin packs a lot into a cleverly-designed space.

hether you're punching out to the shelf on a sloppy morning, running between swells on a bar crossing, or perhaps just mooching around your local waterway, the Sailfish S7 is the cat that just keeps on giving.

This is a magnificent presentation, with an inspiring level of detail and brilliant features, including a very workable layout. Our judges were impressed from the moment they stepped on board by the vast deck area and superior stability afforded by those twin hulls.

There's a well-appointed cabin with a very good helm, a couple of berths and overnighting capacity, all enclosed by big helm windows with excellent visibility, plus the security of locking barn doors.

Testament to her impressive quality,

the Sailfish scored highest in: Suitability for Intended Purpose; Design, Layout and Appearance; Quality of Finish and Stability at Rest. This means the judges handed more than one 10/10 to the ripper Sailfish.

In fact it's fair to say this 7m alloy ripper had them hooked, gaffed and doing death-rattles lying on the deck! She is one helluva impressive sportsfishing weapon.

In a previous test we said: "The transom is a fisherman's wet dream, where everything a skirt chaser or bait slinger could want falls immediately to hand." Sailfish certainly get the piscatorial adrenalin pumping with one of the best fishing layouts imaginable. We challenge any serious fisho to step aboard and not be impressed.

And for those that haven't tasted the abilities of a two hulls busting through the sea, it may be time you tried. We

punched her out through the Lakes Entrance bar in the flick of a tail with the magnificent 150hp Hondas purring silently on the back.

She rides on that cushion of air under the tunnel as if you were in the clouds, and true to her feline appeal, has the tenacity to spring to attention with surprising agility when challenged.

SECOND TIME LUCKY

The Sailfish S7 is a real surprise package with a very serious attitude.

All of our judges loved the slightly larger Canyon Runner at last year's AGB on the Gold Coast, but feedback suggested some minor improvements to ergonomics. To the credit of Sailfish, its team took those minor criticisms on board and came back to play this year with a better model that really turned heads.

She not only made new friends







OPPOSITE TOP Busting through chop offshore is where the Sailfish is happiest. OPPOSITE BELOW An imposing sight on the trailer, but still within towing regs. ABOVE The Hondas give security offshore RIGHT Plenty of room on the dancefloor and a lockable cabin to boot.

"Awesome family and fishing combo with enough creature comforts to please the wife"- KEVIN SMITH

with our judges and crew, but all the Gippsland Ports staff whose lives are based around the water took a keen interest in her, too.

There's no doubt that when it comes maintaining a secure mindset offshore, two engines are better than one and these brilliant Sailfish cats are capable of getting up and planing all the way home on one engine, should the worst occur. In fact, this package instills confidence everywhere you look, with a place for everything and plenty of them.

From the outside - and on the trailer - she looks immense for a 7m boat, but it comes in at a very realistic towing weight for a vessel of such ability. In real terms, she's still well within legal towing regulations, and it's simply the fact the beam is elongated all the way to the bow that makes her so voluptuous.

The Sailfish S7 planes at ridiculously low revs, due to the efficiency of twin

hulls and that air tunnel, so she's enormously fuel efficient for those long days offshore.

No stone has been left unturned in attention to detail - the finished quality, welding prowess, general engineering, appealing fishing and clever layout combined with beautifully produced paint and finished surfaces to take the Sailfish to the pinnacle of her class.

As with most aluminium boat builders, Sailfish has come a long way in the quality of its Australian build production and this latest presentation appeals not only to the rough and tumble offshore sportsfisherman, but also holds genuine appeal as a family cruiser.

What's more, with such unmatched stability, you won't spill your drinks!

Sailfish certainly returned to this year's AGB competition with a vengeance - the S7 simply rocked our seafaring souls.

Sailfish **S7**

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