

AeroMarine Research

TBPNews - Performance Report

~~~~~  
**TBPNews #99 – April 24, 2006**  
~~~~~

>>>> **Tunnel Boat Performance News** >>>>> (now over 7000 members!)
=====

In this issue:

- 1) Boat designers inducted into hall of fame
- 2) Proposed bill prohibits big boats in some Alabama waters
- 3) Powerboat Racing on TV
- 4) Zapcat hits the Dubai shores at Dubai International Boat Show
- 5) Iveco Motors returns to Powerboat P1
- 6) Mercury Shadow Technology available for quadruple engined boats
- 7) Jimboat writes Feature magazine articles

NEXT ISSUE: Feature Article "What a difference an inch makes" - Tunnel height and how it works (how much faster do you go with tunnel height changes?)

***** TBPNews *****

1) Boat designer inducted into hall of fame

Raymond Hunt was recently inducted into the North American Boat Designers Hall of Fame. Hunt is generally credited with the development of the deep-vee hull form, which revolutionized offshore planning boat design and powerboat races. He also designed sailboats, cruisers and racers, and motor yachts. The NABD Hall of Fame was created to permanently recognize achievement in the field of boat design. Each year, typically two or more leading designers who have demonstrated long-term contributions to the art and science of boat design are inducted into the hall of fame.

***** TBPNews *****

2) Proposed bill prohibits big boats in some Alabama waters

A boat ban that passed the Alabama State Senate Judiciary Committee in a closed session in March 2006 is causing alarm throughout the boating community. Senate Bill 487 would ban houseboats, boats of 30+ feet, and boats with engines over 500hp in nine Alabama reservoirs. Industry officials complain that the bill was passed without any public hearings. Under the bill's provisions, new access to the lakes would be blocked, marinas and other businesses that rent houseboats and fishing boats would face financial hardship, and the families that vacation on houseboats on these lakes would be turned away. NMMA sent an alert to its Alabama members asking them to contact their state senators.

***** TBPNews *****

3) Powerboat Racing on TV

*** "Thrill Zone: Extreme Powerboats" - National Geographic powerboat show

Author Jim Russell (Jimboat) is the powerboat design technical consultant on a new National Geographic special for "Thrill Zone" series...Saturday, May 27, 4:00PM and Wednesday, May



31, 4:00PM.- details at:

<http://www.channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/ET/daily/20060527.html>)

Watch for other show dates on the AeroMarine Research website!

http://www.aeromarineresearch.com/NatGeo_thrill-zone.html

***** TBPNews *****

4) Zapcat hits the Dubai shores at Dubai International Boat Show

The unique, single design Zapcat boat has proved a hit at the March 2006 Dubai International Boat Show, as it exhibited for the first time in the Middle East.

Developed from life saving surf rescue craft, Zapcats are designed to cope with a variety of sea conditions from flat calm lakes to large breaking surf. The unique fully inflatable catamaran tunnel hull design means the Zapcat is incredibly stable when afloat, whether stationary or at speed. The clear, well thought out, tough design is as versatile as it is affordable. There are currently three types of Zapcat in the market and all are available for Middle East customers, whether for leisure or for racing.

***** TBPNews *****

5) Iveco Motors returns to Powerboat P1

Iveco, the worlds leading manufacturer of diesel engines is returning to offshore racing after an absence of 17 years.

In 2006, Iveco Motors will compete in the UIM Powerboat P1 World Championship, utilizing it's Fiat Powertrain Technologies (FPT) business. Fiat has created FPT to integrate the groups innovation capabilities and expertise in engines and transmissions. As official engine supplier to Club Italia Offshore Racing, FPT will be providing the team with its new NEF 400 common rail engine. The testing of new engines and props on the Apache 41ft 'Datch' commenced in January.

***** TBPNews *****

6) Mercury Shadow Technology available for quadruple engined boats

Shadow Technology is compatible with any three or four-engine set of Mercury Outboards or MerCruiser Sterndrives and Inboards that are equipped with the Mercury-exclusive SmartCraft Digital Throttle & Shift.

Shadow Technology allows boaters to control three or four engines with just two levers instead of the traditional cumbersome six or eight lever setup. Each binnacle operates the respective outside engine. Unlike conventional mechanical systems, ST controls the center engines in an intuitive manner through software in engine and helm computers. For example, if both levers are in gear and within five degrees of each other, the system initiates the Auto Sync feature and the rpm level of each engine is synchronized.

***** TBPNews *****

7) Jimboat's Feature articles in HB and F&PB magazines

Jimboat writes Feature articles in HotBoat and Family&Performance Boating magazines

- ['The Bottom Line'-'Why does a Pad make a vee Hull faster?' - F&PB-Sept 2005](#)

- ["10 Smokin' Speed Secrets Revealed..." - HB-Feb2005](#)

- ["Winterizing your Performance Outboard" - F&PB-Jan2005](#)

- ["What a Drag" - Trim Angle & Engine Height Can Reduce Drag and Increase Speed" - HB-Sept2004](#)

- ["10 Safety Tips" - HB-Aug2004](#)

***** TBPNews *****



[illegible]

[Advertisement]

MINIMOST & MINIMAX "Sea Fleas" - In the late 50's and early 60's William D. Jackson introduced the two famous seafleas known today as the Minimost and Minimax. Plans & Full Size Patterns Now Available! Brian Cranfield at BC SeaFleas now offers full size patterns for replicas of these boats. Included in the package is a complete set of full-sized patterns, building plans and a booklet to help guide you through the building process. Contact Brian at: cranfieldbrian@hotmail.com or 905-986-4868. More details at: [BC SeaFleas web page](#)

[illegible]