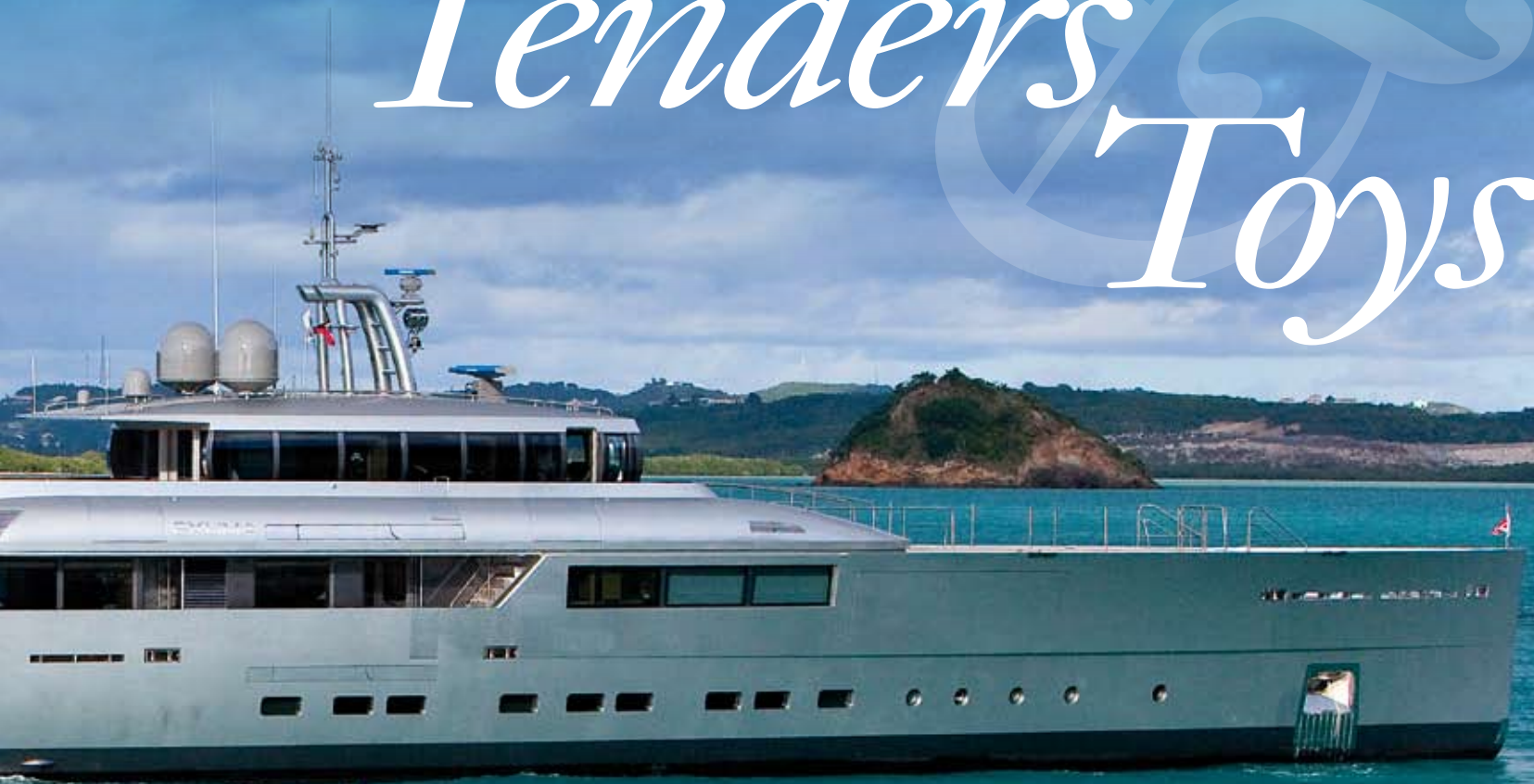




From million-dollar
craft to plastic inflatables
– the tenders and toys that make
your charter special Frances &
Michael Howorth

Tenders & Toys



RETRO

Nostalgia with a distinctly modern technological twist



ART OF KINETIK MAZOKIST

What is it? Genetically modify a 1920s gentlemen's launch, cross it with an early Riva runabout, and give the designer a brief to fertilise it with some 21st-Century shapes, and you have the 9.75-metre Mazokist, built in African mahogany and capable of 40 knots. Builder Art of Kinetik specialises in bespoke wooden yachts and promises no-compromise customisation. The owner has a choice of different cockpit layouts, finishing materials and engine options – even the bespoke steering wheel will be hand finished. Each boat takes between six and ten months to create.

What makes it exciting? The deep-vee cold-moulded vacuum-infused hull, which ensures a comfortable and smooth ride even at top speed.

What it costs Prices start at €400,000.

Contact www.artofkinetik.com

SCALAR-SPEEDSTER

What is it? A classic motor boat in varnished mahogany and teak, hand built to order by expert craftsmen, with fittings and equipment customised to each owner's specifications. The Henningsen & Steckmest yard has been building boats for over 50 years. In 1973 yard owner Rolf Steckmest established Scalar Yachts as a separate brand and recently designed the Scalar-Speedster.

What makes it exciting? There are various deck layouts that can be built on a standard hull – the classic-style tender has a twin-cockpit layout reminiscent of a 1930s runabout (shown right). Variations include six seats, a single cockpit with a large sundeck aft, and a fully open layout ideally suited for watersports.

What it costs From €120,000.

Contact www.scalarsspeedster.de



HACKER-CRAFT SPORT

What is it? For over a hundred years Hacker-Craft have been individually hand built by craftsmen in America. Twenty-first-century versions have all that heritage above water but underneath are utterly modern in design and materials. The 7.6-metre Sport is built with a cold-moulded composite hull and finished with mahogany decks and trim. Every hull comes with a ten-year warranty. Propulsion can be petrol, diesel, hybrid or jet-drive, with many options available. There is one aboard *Christina O*.

What makes it exciting? Built to be durable, manoeuvrable and safe as well as gorgeous to look at, it has a deep-vee hull forward, a shallow aft section for minimal draught, and ample freeboard to handle swells easily and ensure guests avoid getting wet on the ride between yacht and shore. To make life easier for the crew, the boats have double-point lifts, bow thrusters, stainless steel rub rails and extra cleats to hang fenders. For guests, the built-in steps and swim platform mean easy boarding when swimming.

What it costs Prices start at \$300,000.

Contact www.hackerboat.com



YACHTWERFT MEYER 7.6 METRE

What is it? A custom design from Yachtwerft Meyer. This 7.6-metre open tender was built for the 60-metre Abeking & Rasmussen *Elandess*, while the standard 10-metre version has been used as the tender for *Aviva*, A&R's 69-metre launched in 2007. It is a beautiful example of the company's work, though it is not the solid wood that it appears to be: it is built using a lightweight fibreglass sandwich finished with a layer of varnished mahogany veneer. The stern-driven tender can reach a top speed of 34 knots.

What makes it exciting? The elegant yet sporty design that pleases the eye of anyone with salt in their blood. It comes with a powerful performance, excellent seakeeping and the utmost reliability.

What it costs On application.

Contact www.yachtwerft-meyer.de



J-CRAFT TORPEDO

What is it? A blend of classic style with modern technology from a yard that boasts a long heritage in building robust boats that suit the rugged and beautiful Swedish coastline. For the hand-built 12.6-metre Torpedo, J-Craft has taken its inspiration from the Riviera of the 1950s: it's relaxed, cool and confident. One is being built for a new 85-metre superyacht. IPS power delivers over 40 knots.

What makes it exciting? The deliberately tactile finish: you want to stroke the beautiful leather, and run your finger over the gleaming metalwork and the fine wood veneers on deck, which shine with 18 layers of varnish. There is a J-Craft Riviera Runabout Race planned for the summer.

What it costs From €750,000.

Contact www.j-craftboats.com

RIVA BY MARC NEWSON

What is it? Successful industrial product designer Marc Newson has teamed up with Riva and its designers, Officina Italiana Design, to reinterpret the classic Aquariva speedboat. A limited edition of 22 was launched in September last year, available through that most unlikely of yacht suppliers, the Gagolian Gallery. New features include a redesigned transom, a wraparound laminated glass windscreen, split cabin door entry, and separate driver's and passenger seats.

What makes it exciting? The Aquariva by Marc Newson – an extension of the artist's work with planes and cars – combines a feel of the 1960s with the newest trends in nautical design. Along with the Riva heritage, you get the latest electronic transmission, and an instrument panel and deck area created from the phenolic composite that Newson uses in his furniture. This material is a wood-like textile-based laminate developed in the first half of the 20th Century and is a precursor to fibreglass. Rather than stainless steel and chrome brass, the tender uses anodised aluminium.

What it costs Over €1 million.

Contact www.riva-yacht.com www.gagolian.com



RIBS

Practical stalwarts of the tender garage that can still look supremely stylish



WHITMARSH 11M

What is it? After years in the superyacht industry and offshore powerboat racing, James Whitmarsh has launched his own company to build fast tenders. **What makes it exciting?** Superb handling and incredible acceleration. Twin four-stroke outboards give a top speed of 70 knots, so getting from ship to shore in a hurry is no problem. Launched at Monaco last year, several have already been sold. **What it costs** From £182,000. **Contact** www.whitmarsh-ribs.com



WILLIAMS TURBOJET 505D

What is it? Williams Performance Tenders' top-of-the-line Turbojet 505D is a light and compact but fully equipped diesel tender. With a 35-knot top speed from its jet-drive and great stability, the 5.05-metre craft can carry seven.

What makes it exciting? The high level of customisation without an exorbitant price tag. Thirty different tube colours, a wide choice of upholstery fabrics and colours, and unlimited GRP colour matching ensure every tender is a unique and perfect compliment for the mothership. The clever underwater exhaust system produces a very quiet tender, allowing you to explore unspoilt spots without disturbing anyone or anything. British entrepreneur Theo Paphitis will shortly be taking delivery of his own customised 505D for his new Sunseeker 40M.

What it costs From £35,000. **Contact** www.williamsjettenders.com



PURE 730S

What is it? Definitely not a typical out-of-the-box RIB. Utilising carbon fibre reinforced with Kevlar and added reinforcement in high-load areas, this 7.3-metre boat combines modern ultra-light yacht-building technology in a practical and rugged platform, with standard teak decks and options that include a variety of custom colours and lifting arrangements. It can carry up to 12 guests. The hull – originally designed for the military market – has benefited from extensive tank testing followed by trails of three full-size prototypes. The range also includes a 450, a 520 and a 575.

What makes it exciting? The light weight of the tender (546kg) makes it easy to handle on or off the mothership, but it's also incredibly strong, so you'll be able to make the most of the deep-vee hull.

What it costs Price on application. **Contact** www.pureyachting.com



NOVURANIA 7-METRE LAUNCH

What is it? Novurania has completely redesigned its 6 and 7-metre Launches, though they are not strictly RIBs: a sleek, hard-wearing non-inflatable foam collar adds buoyancy and stability, and provides the same excellent fendering as an inflatable tube. Diesel power ensures reliability and compatibility with the yacht's fuel system. **What makes it exciting?** The addition of a fully opening electro-hydraulic bow ramp operated from the helm. Once on the beach, the bow drops down and guests disembark by simply walking off – perfect for older guests. Boarding is easy too, with removable handrails on the port side of the tender. It will be officially launched at the Monaco Yacht Show later this year.

What it costs Price on application. **Contact** www.novurania.com



ULTIMATE

The season's best-looking, best-performing and most desirable tenders



MAORI 50

What is it? An exciting 14.5-metre Italian tender designed by Oberdan Chimenti in collaboration with Trident Marine. Interior and exterior options make it fully customisable. A new Maori 37 has recently been commissioned by a Bulgarian superyacht owner for his 45-metre Benetti. **What makes it exciting?** Clean lines and striking muscular looks will make the Maori the belle of the tender park. The choice of surface propellers or waterjets, and petrol or diesel from 350 to 600hp, means that this tender promises immense performance. **What it costs** From €600,000. **Contact** www.maoriyacht.com



DALE 23

What is it? A superbly performing dayboat from a British yard whose Nelson boats are established rough-sea champions. The carbon-composite resin-infused hull and VW sterndrive power deliver all the pace you can handle. The cockpit layout is fully customisable. **What makes it exciting?** The on-water experience. Behind the boat's unshowy looks is a powerful performer that grips the water without flinching and makes full use of the 42-plus-knots top speed. Climb aboard, settle down, and tell the driver to gun the engines. Just don't forget to hold on. **What it costs** From £80,000. **Contact** www.dalnelson.co.uk

DYMAX SHUTTLE TENDER

What is it? A lightweight, slender two-seater 5.45-metre boat with outstanding acceleration and a top speed over 40 knots. It's a blend of traditional quality and modern composites: wood, foam, epoxy and reinforcing fibres create a light and strong high-performance craft. An 8.5-metre version has just been launched.

What makes it exciting? A fast, fun boat for dashing from A to B. The powerful turbocharged engine combined with an agile jet-drive make rough waters and sharp turns a speciality.

What it costs Prices start at €48,000.

Contact www.felleryachting.de



GOLDFISH 36 P1 SUPERSPORT

What is it? Hand built in Norway, these are tough RIBs with a marathon performance – and with a top speed of 80 knots, they'll do pretty well in the sprints, too. They are built of high-grade glass and carbon-fibre composites that greatly enhance structural integrity, speed and performance.

What makes it exciting? The unique hull design with its low angle of attack. Precise low-speed handling means it works superbly as a tender, and the ride is comfortable even in rough water. If you want to head away from the mothership, it will take you there without breaking sweat.

What it costs €300,000-600,000.

Contact www.goldfishboat.com



RAL PROJECT

What is it? A limited-edition of five 40-knot runabouts – each with a unique sculpture. Conceived by 21-year-old French entrepreneur John Dodelande and built by Frauscher, the first two examples sported sculptures by French artist Xavier Veihan. The RAL5015 (right) is in International Blue Klein, a colour mixed by artist Yves Klein. The second boat is the RAL Blue Sky.

Three remaining tenders will be sold at auction by ArtCurial in Paris this year at dates yet to be set.

What makes it exciting? The best tenders look like works of art; the RAL is a work of art.

What it costs Auction guide price: €180,000-200,000.

Contact www.johndodelande.com



WATERCAR PYTHON

What is it? The makers claim this is the world's fastest amphibious vehicle – capable of 58mph on water and 125mph on land, with 0-60mph in 4.5 seconds on the road. It's not a conversion but a custom build using a vinylester hull and corrosion-resistant components. Personal choice dictates colour, engine and interior layout. The photo shows the Python prototype but orders are being taken for production models.

What makes it exciting? The possibility of true door-to-door transport – from your superyacht at anchor in the bay to the restaurant in the hills above.

What it costs From \$200,000.

Contact www.watercar.com

SUBS

Commune with coral in your own undersea world aboard these stunning subs

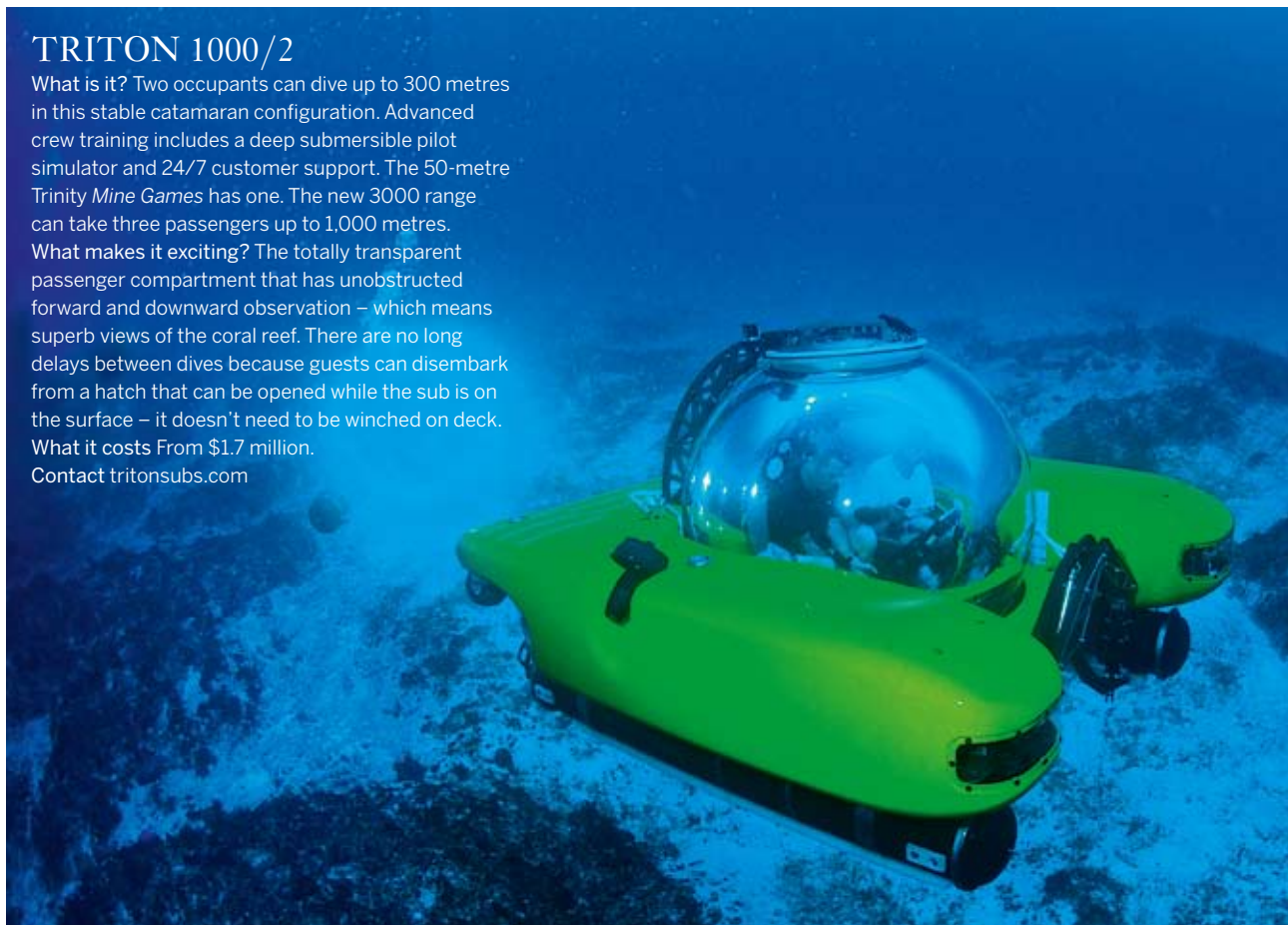
TRITON 1000/2

What is it? Two occupants can dive up to 300 metres in this stable catamaran configuration. Advanced crew training includes a deep submersible pilot simulator and 24/7 customer support. The 50-metre Trinity *Mine Games* has one. The new 3000 range can take three passengers up to 1,000 metres.

What makes it exciting? The totally transparent passenger compartment that has unobstructed forward and downward observation – which means superb views of the coral reef. There are no long delays between dives because guests can disembark from a hatch that can be opened while the sub is on the surface – it doesn't need to be winched on deck.

What it costs From \$1.7 million.

Contact tritonsubs.com



SEAMAGINE PEARL

What is it? A two-person model that dives to 150 metres in standard mode, with the option of 300 or 900 metres dive capacity. The tried-and-trusted model, measuring 4.5 metres long and 2.3 metres high, is into its seventh generation. The clamshell opening allows easy access for guests and crew. A three-person Ocean Triumph model goes to 450 metres, with an option to dive to over 900.

What makes it exciting? With over 10,000 logged dives under its belt, the Pearl is a model that is a proven performer. You can dive for six hours in normal operation. The makers say it will remain horizontal underwater and doesn't roll or pitch.

What it costs From \$990,000.

Contact www.seamagine.com



U-BOAT WORX C-EXPLORER

What is it? A new deep-sea sub from U-Boat Worx designed to supplement its successful C-Quester model. The new range can be built to go to depths of 1,000 metres and carry from two to five passengers for 18 hours. A 360° acrylic pressure hull ensures passengers get the best unobstructed view possible. The two-person C-Explorer shown can dive to 100 metres.

What makes it exciting? The amazing depths you can go to, but it's also agile, reliable, spacious and air-conditioned. It can be fitted with a range of extras, like HD video cameras, manipulator arms and ROVs. A luxury pack includes superior seats, an iPod dock and a wine cooler.

What it costs From €653,000.

Contact www.uboworx.com



SMARTSUB FOUR.2

What is it? A two-person 4.2-metre-long epoxy composite submarine that meets IMO guidelines for passenger submersible crafts as well as the relevant rules of the leading class societies. It is electronically limited to 50-metre dives (a commercial version is capable of 200). Touch-screen displays and joystick control make operation of the sub easy.

What makes it exciting? From the comfort of the sub's plush leather seats, the pilot and passenger can experience the undersea world ahead and beneath their feet. On the surface it can also function as a support tender, with a five-knot top speed. The digital and still video camera means you can capture your undersea memories.

What it costs From €650,000 including training.

Contact www.dmsunit.com



PWCs

Whether you like cornering at top speed or pottering with friends, there's a PWC for you



POWERSKI JETBOARD

What is it? Cross a surfboard with a wakeboard and a traditional PWC and you get something like this – a jet-powered toy that enables the rider to speed across flat water at 35mph. Invented by surfer Robert Montgomery, it boasts a 45hp engine and weighs just 84kg. It's controlled using a flexible pole at the front with a modular handle that houses throttle, speedometer, fuel indicator and kill-switch. What makes it exciting? A toy for all, and fun to practise on, too. Perfect for a yacht's garage as it's easy to stow. What it costs Prices start at \$9,999. Contact www.powerski.com



SEA-DOO RXT-X AS 260 RS

What is it? BRP's 2011 top-of-the-range Sea-Doo RXT-X AS 260 RS features an adjustable suspension system designed to maximise the rough-water capabilities of the hull, while minimising rider fatigue. Equipped with a grip-and-groove seat, the company's iBR (Intelligent Brake & Reverse) system, and an integrated lap timer.

What makes it exciting? This latest Sea-Doo will satisfy the adrenaline junky with its power and handling. The yacht's crew will be happy, too, as they can adjust the suspension to match sea conditions and rider weight, making this perfect for a wide range of guests and locations.

What it costs From £16,649.

Contact www.brp.com



YAMAHA WAVERUNNER VXR

What is it? The four-stroke WaveRunner VXR, new for 2011, is a two-person performance speed machine for adrenaline junkies.

What makes it exciting? The tried-and-tested semi-vee multi-chine hull that delivers a thrill-a-minute ride and pinpoint handling. The ergonomically designed seat offers increased support to the rider during acceleration and cornering. This is a serious tool for experienced riders, but the VXR is also easy for a newcomer to use. If you fancy just trundling along there's a dual cup-holder in the glovebox. The 1,812cc 16-valve, DOHC engine results in instant power, good acceleration, and what the company says are "unprecedented levels of efficiency".

What it costs From £12,999.

Contact www.yamaha-motor.co.uk



KAWASAKI JET SKI ULTRA 300LX

What is it? Kawasaki's most powerful Jet Ski, packed with features and with speed to burn. The lightweight hull weighs 472kg.

What makes it exciting? With electronic throttle valves that manage the four-stroke engine's massive 221kW power output, this is a PWC with a beast in its belly, producing a thrill-a-minute ride on a hull that sports stabilising sponsons. But in its gentler modes it is a great way of taking a couple of friends or family members for a ride around the bay – the scalloped seats can take three adults. The machine has 212 litres of general storage, meaning that you can fetch up at a deserted beach fully provisioned for a spot of lunch.

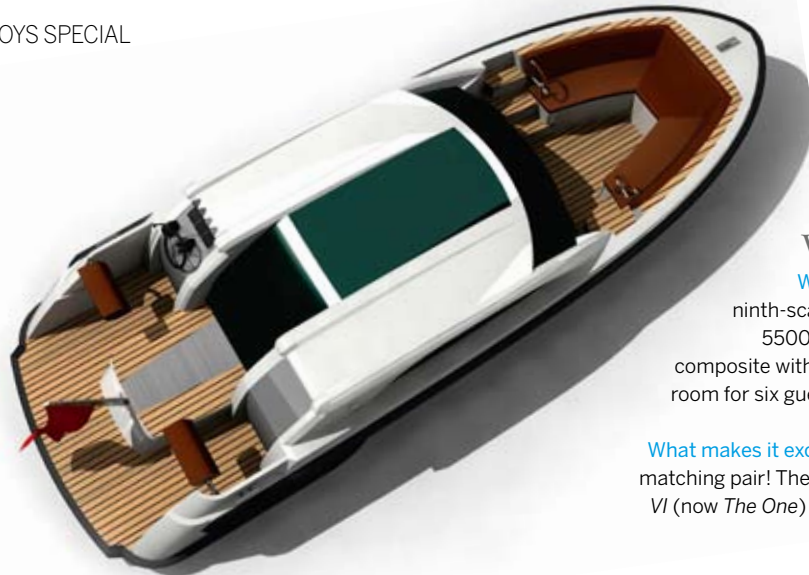
What it costs From €14,999.

Contact www.kawasaki.eu



CONCEPTS

Hot off the drawing-board, the designs that will be setting the standard next season



VRIPACK LIMO TENDER 25

What is it? A motor boat designed by Vripack to be a ninth-scale version of the Frank Laupman-designed Heesen 5500 semi-displacement yacht that carries it. Built from composite with 300hp Volvo D4 engines and a cabin area that has room for six guests. There is outside seating in the bow and a large swim platform astern of the steering position.

What makes it exciting? How cool to have your yacht and tender as a matching pair! The Lürssen-built, Jon Bannenberg-designed *Carinthia VI* (now *The One*) is perhaps the originator of this delightful idea. The Limo Tender is a worthy example of the art.

Contact www.vripack.com

PASCOE SL10 LIMOUSINE

What is it? A fast ship-to-shore tender for large yachts with room for 16 guests and two crew. It's built from epoxy glass on a foam sandwich.

What makes it exciting? The SL10 is safe, fast, dry and comfortable, with heavy-duty seating outside for four plus the crew and cabin space below with great views out. There's the option of dual steering positions – perfect for the owner who likes to take the wheel. Twin inboard diesel Yanmars produce a good turn of speed. Hybrid propulsion is an option.

Contact www.pascoeinternational.com



RES-Q-TENDER 5.5M

What is it? A rugged SOLAS-approved tender developed by Vripack and Tim Fleming of Boating Matters. The RES-Q-Tender, with an aluminium hull and deck and removable inflatable tube, can be used for maintaining the mothership. Passenger and stretcher space is aft with a walkway down both sides to allow safe loading and unloading. The driver is forward, giving him fine visibility even at sub-planing speeds.

What makes it exciting? The variety of uses this tough little tender can be put to. It is safe, comfortable, and easily maintained and stowed. The first models will be launched later this year.

Contact www.boatingmatters.com

TENDER SHIPYARD 7.4

What is it? A 7.4-metre tender built for the 53-metre Baglietto *Berkut*. Designed by Philippe Cabon – previously the designer of the Tresco Tender range – it is built in the new yard he has created for producing specialist tenders. Constructed from carbon fibre and epoxy resin, the 7.4-metre has a teak deck. It was due to launch just after we went to press.

What makes it exciting? Lightweight and comfortable, it can carry 12 passengers at up to 35 knots. The hardtop is removable and everything internally folds down to make the highest point the bumper fender, ensuring it can slide into *Berkut's* garage.

Contact www.tendershipyard.com





BOSTON WHALER 370 OUTRAGE YACHT TENDER

What is it? A special version of the all-action, offshore-capable 370 Outrage specced for life as a megayacht tender.

What makes it exciting? As generations of boaters have come to expect from Boston Whalers, this will get you safely home at a tremendous lick (triple Mercury Verado outboards will give you almost 50 knots). This Outrage has the added bonus of increased cockpit seating and extra rubber fendering around the hull. The centre console 370 has an established reputation among sportsfishermen. In the new version there is a 'summer kitchen' option (an electric stove and an extra fridge) to replace the live baitwell, though there is extensive storage for rods and fishing gear should your guests fancy some sport. A small cabin even allows an intrepid couple to overnight.

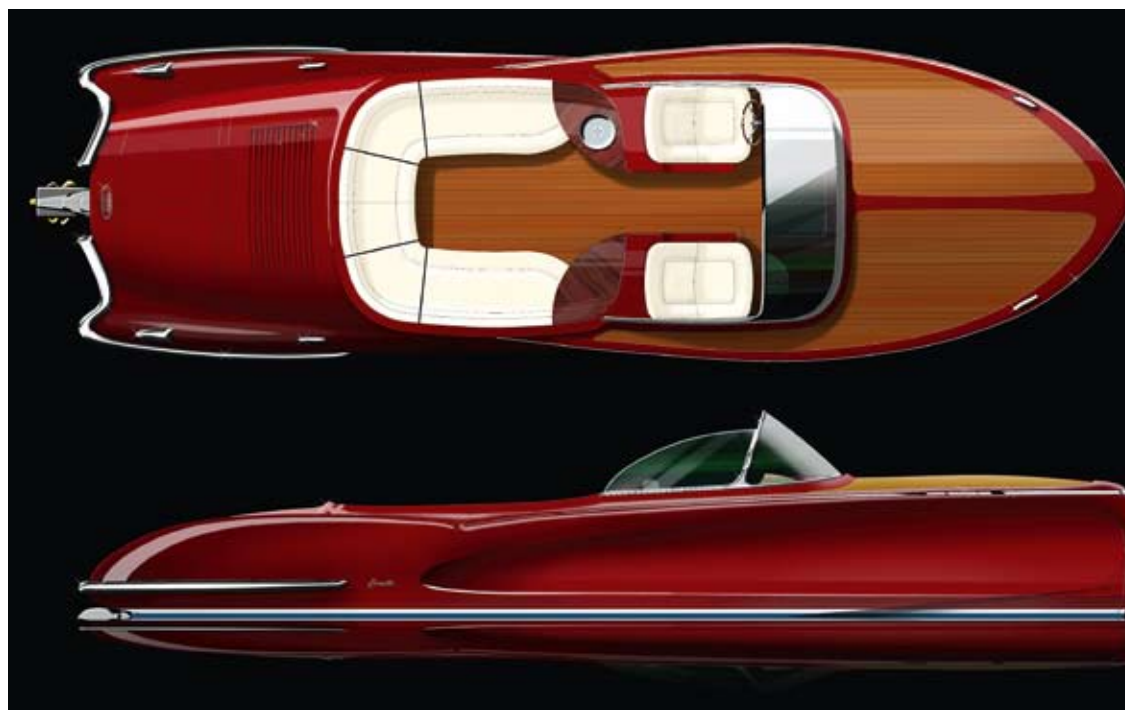
Contact www.whaler.com

WAJER & WAJER OSPREY 34

What is it? The latest offering from Dutch boatbuilder Wajer & Wajer is the culmination of a design process that began in 2008, since when the yard has been working closely with Vripack and Van Oossanen & Associates. Special emphasis has been put on the boat's performance in choppy seas to reduce slamming and enhance the comfort of guests. There's a head and a small galley below, while the twin 260hp engines deliver a top speed of 30 knots (there's a single 165hp option, too). The 34 follows the success of the Osprey 37.

What makes it exciting? The deep and sheltered cockpit, which ensures a safe ride for guests. A fold-out swimming platform enhances accessibility at the stern.

Contact www.wajer.nl



WERNER 28

What is it? An 8.6-metre tender designed by Theo Werner for Holland Yachtbouw as a distinctive and stylish alternative to a RIB.

Why is it exciting? Harking back to runabouts of yesteryear, the 28 is also inspired by that classic of car design, a 1958 Chevrolet Corvette. "It is easy to recognise the back of the Corvette, the windscreen with its wind-down side windows, the driver's cockpit and the concave panel inside," says Theo Werner.

It's the perfect boy's toy, and we're guessing she'll like it, too.

Contact www.werneryachtdesign.com



BESPOKE

Some great recent examples of the
bespoke tender-makers art



VIKAL CUSTOM LIMOUSINE

What is it? The owner of Cakewalk, the new 85.6-metre yacht built by Derektor, commissioned three custom tenders to fit in her massive tender bay, the most outstanding of which is this 11.3-metre Vikal Custom Limousine. It was designed by Tim Heywood "to be like a Bentley Continental" and has been hand built in Australia by Vikal. What makes it exciting? The twin Volvo D6 370hp turbocharged diesels that give a cruising speed of 25 knots and a top speed of 50 knots – perfect for journeys to and from the shore in enclosed comfort. Contact www.vikal.com.au



TIM TOO

What is it? An 8-metre limousine tender for the 62-metre Icon *Baton Rouge*. It's designed by Tim Heywood and Yachtwerft Meyer: the boatyard contributed the exterior design and Heywood drew the interior to meet the owner's demand for a bright and warm environment. The result is a tender that can accommodate ten guests and two crew, all of whom are well protected from the elements. It delivers a top speed of 33 knots. As the boat is stowed on deck where space is limited, it had to be tailored to the mothership's dimensions.

What makes it exciting? Despite the size, it is still easily controllable, reacting with great agility. There are plenty of amenities on board.

Contact www.yachtwerft-meyer.de



TT RAHAL

What is it? Pascoe's 6.0 Carbon Outboard Shuttle, made for *Rahal*, a 46.5-metre Feadship from 2003. **What makes it exciting?** The specific request came in from the owner and captain for a tender that performed well but was above all lightweight, so Pascoe set to work on this bespoke 6.0 Carbon with an epoxy/carbon fibre lay-up. The limiting factor of the mothership was the capacity of the launching crane, but the loaded 6.0 with a Honda F150 four-stroke outboard on the transom weighs only 840kg. The tender also features a clear-coated carbon finish to the console, a custom-made outboard cover, fly-by-wire controls, a sound system, tender tracking, embroidered upholstery, and self-stowing strops. It all means that the yacht has a larger and more practical tender than before.

Contact www.pascoeinternational.com

TRIPLE RIPPLE

What is it? A 7.8-metre aluminium boat designed by Gregory C. Marshall and built by McMullen & Wing for Aquos Yachts as a tender to the recently launched *Big Fish*. Powered by a 315hp Yanmar diesel driving a Hamilton waterjet, it has a range of almost 300 miles at 20 knots and a maximum speed of over 30. *Big Fish* has a garage capable of stowing the tender for long passages but she can be towed, if necessary, in ocean conditions.

What makes it exciting? The owner's brief for an innovative contemporary tender that can serve multiple functions has been fulfilled superbly. The boat is able to access offshore dive sites, fishing grounds and secluded bays. It's a comfortable ship-to-shore tender, a sportsboat, and an offshore powerboat capable of extended passages.

Contact www.mcmullenandwing.com



TOYS

From slides, to sharks and skirts – there's no shortage of fun toys

ICON A5

What is it? A two-seater aircraft, built of carbon fibre and epoxy composites with an intuitive sports-car-like cockpit. Pilot Kirk Hawkins and engineer and entrepreneur Steen Strand formed Icon Aircraft in Southern California to take advantage of a new 'sports pilot' licence in the US. It has a range of 300nm and a top of speed of 120mph. It's 7.3 metres long and 2.4 metres wide when the wings are folded.

What makes it exciting? Light enough to crane aboard a superyacht and you don't need any special fuel arrangements on board (it runs on petrol or avgas). You can fly from land or water.

What it costs From \$139,000.
Contact www.iconaircraft.com



SEABREACHER X

What is it? A high-speed boat in the shape of a shark. It can flip, twist and dive. The latest model from Innespace (the J model is a tamer dolphin) has a 260hp engine that can drive the craft at 50mph on the surface and 25mph below. Live video from a fin-mounted camera transmits to the LCD screens for the pilot and passenger, the mouth-shaped port allows underwater views and you can play the theme from *Jaws* via the iPod dock.

What makes it exciting? An adrenaline ride for the thrill-seeker. It can dive a metre or so beneath the surface then come up and launch itself clear of the water. The thrust system mimics the tail articulation of a real shark, while the custom-tuned exhaust system emits a throaty growl. Mad, but fun.

What it costs From \$85,000.
Contact www.seabreacher.com

HOVPOD SPX

What is it? The second generation of hovercraft from Reaction International that has been designed specifically for the rough and tumble of the leisure market. Built with a very strong, impact-resistant hull, it is so buoyant that it will still float if swamped with water, while the tough skirt material is almost impossible to rip and extremely hard wearing. It is fun, easy to use, easy to service, safe and reliable. It can carry three adults at up to 45mph over any terrain so long as it's flat. It's already a popular toy on some superyachts (the 50-metre Picchiotti *Exuma* has one).

What makes it exciting? The Hovpod is great for landings in shallow water or where submerged rocks deter a traditional tender. It is also environmentally friendly – no exhaust fumes in the water, and no propellers to damage coral or submerged marine life.

What it costs From around £20,000 ex tax.
Contact www.hovercraft-hovercraft.com



BLADEFISH SEAJET 5000

What is it? A personal motorised device for divers and snorkellers. This little machine can speed you through the water without any hard work. It allows you to dive to 40 metres and to play underwater for up to two hours before it needs to be recharged. The top speed is 5kph. We know of one yacht that has half a dozen hanging up in her garage.

What makes it exciting? Use it above or below the surface – it can be positively buoyant for surface use or slightly negatively buoyant to make diving easy with or without scuba gear. It is fun, exhilarating and effortless, and simple and easy to use. Fighting a current is a thing of the past, so the air in your tank will last much longer and you can snorkel much further on one breath underwater.

What it cost £600.
Contact www.bladefish.co.uk



THE SEA POOL

What is it? Your own private ocean swimming pool hanging off the stern of your superyacht. The Sea Pool is designed by Henshaw Inflatables, and features a very fine 1.5mm built-in mesh to stop unwanted marine life getting inside. It can be made to any size and includes anchoring points, lifelines, and an optional stainless steel boarding ladder.

What makes it exciting? A great toy that means you no longer need to worry about the children or weak swimmers drifting too far from the yacht. And it's a good way to keep jellyfish out.

What it costs From £10,635 for a 5 by 5-metre sea pool, and they can be built to order.

Contact www.henshaw.co.uk



TRIAK

What is it? A safe and stable 5.5-metre trimaran sailing kayak with a roller-furling mainsail, asymmetrical spinnaker and spinnaker snuffer. The sails can be deployed and stowed in seconds, to convert it from sailing to paddling mode. The fibreglass build with carbon fibre mast makes it very light – just 45.4kg.

What makes it exciting? A great toy for novice sailors – if the wind dies or if tacking back becomes a pain, just lower the sails and get out the paddle. It is easy to operate, comfy and stable. A great craft for exploring the creeks and small rivers in sheltered bays.

What it costs From \$5,499. Custom colours are available to match your yacht.

Contact www.triaksports.com



FREESTYLE CRUISER

What is it? An air inflatable that is custom built as a water slide for superyachts. It is 100% hot-air welded, manufactured out of 28oz Firmatex vinyl and comes with a five-year warranty. Each slide has strategically placed attachments to ensure minimal hull contact. We first saw it aboard the 51-metre Oceanco *Lazy Z* and our first thought – like most people who see it – is that we really wanted to have a go. There is a growing list of yachts that have one.

What makes it exciting? A fun toy for all ages. There are lots of ways of going down the slide and you can reach some exhilarating speeds. Because it is easy to handle, to move around, to set up and to take down, the crew love it, too.

What it costs Around \$1,850 per vertical metre.

Contact www.freestylecruiser.com

AQUA STAR AS1 SEA SCOOTER

What is it? Combine an old-fashioned diver's hard hat with a PVC and you get the AS1, which allows complete newcomers to go diving. The highly manoeuvrable toy is controlled like a motorbike with the handlebar.

What makes it exciting? An easy way to get underwater, allowing you to motor along at 4mph, breathing normally to depths of up to 40ft. There's also a two-person AS2 version, aboard which you can chat to your fellow rider.

What it costs \$16,950 for the AS1; \$22,950 for the AS2.

Contact www.aquastarscooters.com

