

Hybrid boat launched! Green yacht employs solar panels and diesel electric power for efficiency.



ZOGO emerges from the shop

On a chilly day just after Thanksgiving, a breakthrough yacht slid out of the cozy shop in Belfast, Maine, where she had spent the past year coming to life from a pile of aromatic cedar and carbon fiber. *Zogo* is the brain-child of a collaboration between the owners who had the vision of a clean, silent boat with which to enjoy the pristine Maine waters, the design team of Stephens, Waring and White, who brought the technical and aesthetic innovation to pull together a unique boat, and French and Webb boatbuilders, who provided the hands-on knowhow to bring to life this work of art.



She gets her feet wet!

Using a brand-new technology, the 29' center-console craft employs a Steyr diesel engine with an integral Hybrid drive, which allows the boat to run under electric power nearly silently, and to use the 110 hp diesel engine to drive her at higher speeds and to recharge the state-of-the-art lithium-ion battery bank.



Underway on electric drive; photo by Billy Black

Careful design of the hull and underwater appendages was a key factor in the yacht's success. "The first place to go green is by conservation," says Bob Stephens of Stephens, Waring and White. "The less power the hull requires, the longer the run time between recharges." The sleek, narrow vessel sports a voluptuous slipper stern and "powderhorn" sheer, topped by a spectacular carbon-fiber canopy that appears to float above the gorgeous varnished teak console. The canopy isn't just for looks, however; it supports 360 watts of photovoltaic panels, to assist in charging the batteries. "In typical summer usage, the solar panels might contribute about half the electrical demands of the boat," says Stephens.

For more information, www.frenchwebb.com