

'Valdez Spirit'



Combine the proven naval architectural skills of New Zealand's Teknicraft Design and the aluminium construction expertise of All American Marine and the end result is the 25.29 metre aluminium catamaran 'Valdez Spirit'.

A leading builder of high speed passenger catamarans, excursion and charter vessels, All American Marine established an exclusive partnership with Teknicraft Design in 1998 that ensured the two companies would work together to design and build highly functional vessels, such as 'Valdez Spirit'.

The impressive multihull was designed, constructed, outfitted and equipped to meet the specific requirements of its owner/operators and the passengers who will join their planned whale watching and adventure tours.

"Stan and Colleen Stephens love the boat," said All American Marine's director of business development Matt Hotchkiss. "Colleen is Stan's daughter and is pretty much the one who runs the show."

"The vessel's fuel consumption is much better than they anticipated compared to other craft on the same basic trip with the same engines.

"They have a boat called 'Chugach' which is a 14.40 metre Westport 80, and for that boat to do the trip takes 1,700 litres a day.

"American Eagle," which is one of Tom Tougas's boats, takes 1,600 litres, while 'Valdez Spirit' is using only 1,130 to 1,325 litres.

"So they are very happy with it, and very happy with the fuel usage."

Propulsive power is provided by twin Luger 617A diesel engines, each developing 596kW at 2,200rpm and spinning an Osborne five bladed propeller through a ZF 1900A gearbox to deliver a maximum speed of 24 knots and a cruising speed of 20 knots.

Based on a Japanese Komatsu engine, the six cylinder in line, turbocharged and jacket water aftercooled diesels were supplied with a marinisation kit and sold by Northern Lights under the Luger brand name. Auxiliary power is provided by two Northern Lights MP40C 40kW generators.

Main engines and generators are fuelled by 7,570 litres of diesel oil, while fresh water capacity is 1,130 litres. The vessel is rated for 149 passengers, with 80 per cent of the interior seats on the main deck. The bridge sweeps across the front of the superstructure with Garibaldi direct glaze windows ensuring clear visibility.

Dampa ceiling panels were supplied by the appropriately named Ceiling Works. Ayres Composite Panels provided Airlight 2054 laminate faced panels for linings and furnishings including tables, cupboards and drawers.

Electronics at the command station were supplied by Radar Marine and include a Comnav auto pilot, Garman 162 global positioning system, Furuno 1942 MkII radar, Furuno FCV-600L depth sounder and a Ritchie compass.

A Jetstram steering system ensures precise control of the impressive multi-hull whether it is running straight ahead, manoeuvring through crowded waterways or docking at its home berth. Wing stations at the port and starboard sides of the



An impressive whale watching catamaran from All American Marine

By BILL BEECHAM

bridge are a further aid to safe navigation when operating in restricted areas.

Passenger amenities include a very spacious galley on the main deck, a gift sales area and male and female toilets.

On-board safety equipment is to local regulations and includes three DBC 50 person IBA liferafts.

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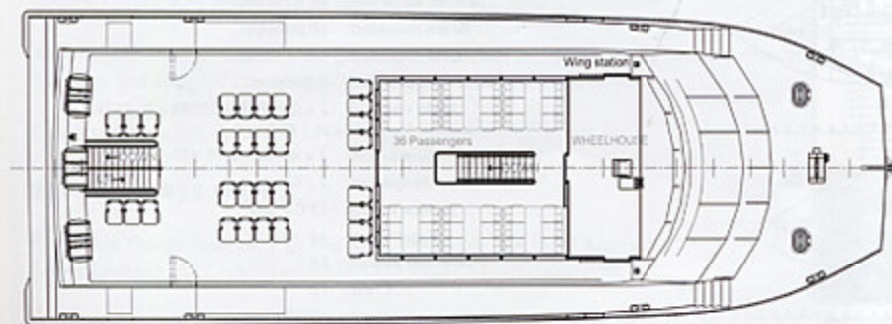
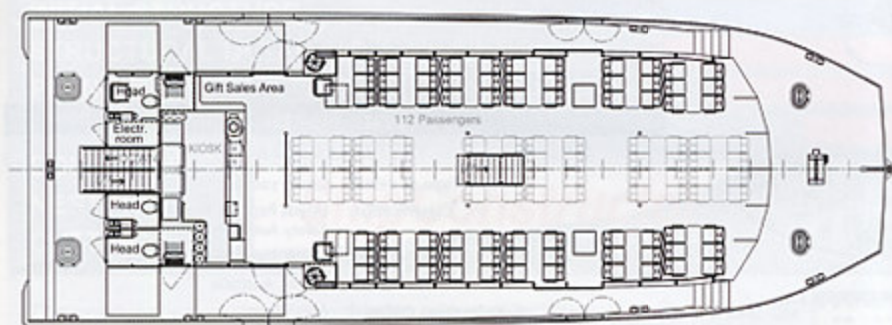
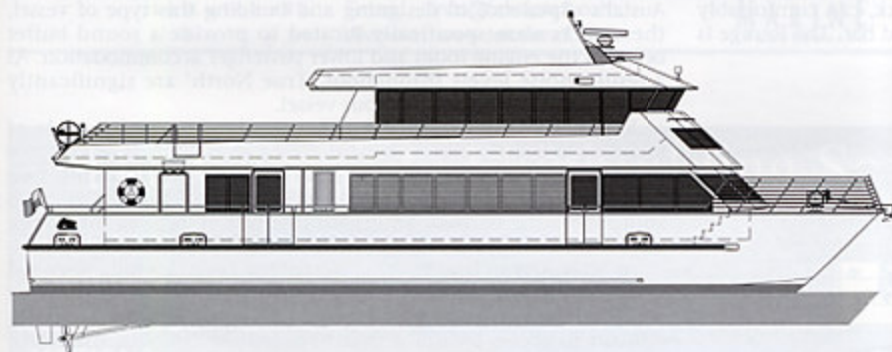


Multi-hull design tools

Design tools are an important part of any naval architect's office. In the Teknicraft office, the Maxsurf suite of naval architecture software forms a key part of their tool set.

Since 1997 Teknicraft have used Maxsurf for hull modelling, Hydromax for stability analysis, Hullspeed for resistance prediction and Seakeeper for motions prediction. This range of tools allows Teknicraft to perform rapid optimisation of their hullforms ensuring that they satisfy a wide range of design criteria including speed, power requirements, wake generation and passenger comfort.

Based on feedback from Teknicraft and other multi-hull designers, the developers of Maxsurf, Formation Design Systems, are extending Maxsurf's multi-hull capabilities to include advanced slender body resistance calculations, wake wave calculations and improved catamaran roll analysis.



'Valdez Spirit'

SPECIFICATIONS

- Type of vessel: Catamaran passenger vessel
- In survey to: USCG Sub Chapter T
- Home port: Valdez, Alaska
- Owner: Stan Stephens Cruises
- Designer: Teknicraft Design, New Zealand
- Builder: All American Marine, U.S.A.
- Construction material: Aluminium
- Length overall: 25.29 metres
- Length waterline: 22.70 metres
- Beam: 8.89 metres
- Draught: 0.96 metres
- Main engines: 2 x Luger L617A, 596kW at 2,200rpm
- Gearboxes: 2 x ZF 1900A
- Propellers: 2 x Osborne five-bladed
- Generators: 2 x Northern Lights MP40C, 40kW
- Maximum speed: 24 knots
- Cruising speed: 20 knots
- GPS: Garmin 162
- Radar: Furuno 1942 MkII
- Depth sounder: Furuno FCV-600L
- Autopilot: Comnav 2001
- Compass: Ritchie
- Capstan/windlass: Kolstrand
- Steering: Jastram
- Seating: Beurteaux
- Liferafts: 3 x DBC 50 person IBA
- Fuel capacity: 7,570 litres
- Freshwater: 1,130 litres
- Passengers: 149
- Crew: 2

