

NEW FAST CAT FOR WEXFORD SKIPPER

A new arrival to Rosslare recently was the fast potting catamaran Pathfinder II for skipper Micheal Ferguson.

Based on a hull built by Catapult Catamarans Marine Projects Ltd and finished out by G Smyth Boats in Kilkeel, Pathfinder II is moulded with ultra fine deep 'V' forward sections to reduce any slamming to a minimum.

This also keeps the vessel on a more level altitude whilst running through all the speed range, allowing power to be transferred more efficiently to the propellers by keeping the propeller shafts at a constant angle enabling more forward thrust. A deep forefoot also counteracts the windage that a vessel of this size is subject to when hauling.

The bridge deck has been designed as a reverse 'S' section instead of the usual convex formation, this allows us more head room in accommodation space whilst still retaining the wheelhouse status. Also this gives water to the bridge deck forward clearance of over two



Pathfinder II.

metres. A full wave breaker has also been incorporated in the design with built in flare and progressive reserve buoyancy.

This gives us a massively strong spine to the boat. Two full-length

keels give the vessel increased grip in the water to aid good course keeping and static stability in wind situations. The keels have been cut back and profiled to deliver a clean flow of water to the propellers, for this reason 'P' brackets and hung rudders were the best option, giving enhanced hydrodynamics and performance.

G Smyth Boats fabricated the wheelhouse and fitted out the hull to Micheal's specifications and oversaw the fitting out of the engine and electronics

Pathfinder II is powered by twin IVECO ENT N67 engines with fly-by-wire engine controls forward at the hauling position and in the wheelhouse. Supplied by Joe Kirwan Marine and derated to suit the owner's licence, the FPT engines drive 600mm-diameter four-bladed propellers through

Twin-Disc 5065 2:1 reduction gearboxes.

The hydraulic package supplied by Derek Noble centres around a one and 1/2 tonnes Spencer Carter slave hauler working over a gunnel roller.

The hydraulics are powered by a Rexroth load sensing pump off the main engines using a Rexroth proportional control valve pump fitted in the engine room to regulate the flow. On deck all the hydraulics are operated with hydraulic joy sticks, including the hauler, the landing winch, lifting winch for the derrick and the hydraulic pressure washer.

The wheelhouse electronics which were supplied and installed by SIRM UK Kilkeel included: A JRC JLR21 GPS Compass System connected to a Navitron NT777 Autopilot System with Constant

Running Pump. A Timezero Touchscreen Multifunction display, with Radar and Echosounder. A Lorenz Magnum Pro Black Box Chartplotter, connected to a 17" LCD display. An Olex 3D Seabed Mapping System with ground discrimination option, with a Hondex HT7300 Echosounder System. A Furuno GP39 GPS Navigator, an AIT2000 Class B AIS System, 2 Sailor RT6215 DSC VHF's, a 5 Camera CCTV Package, a TV package and a marine FM Radio.

pots supplied by Liam McDermott and potting rope from Swan Net Gundry. The vessels catch will be landed to Sofrimar in Kilmore Quay. Insurance for Pathfinder II was arranged through Morgan Marine.

Micheal Ferguson speaking to The Skipper praised the team at G Smyth for their hard work and attention to detail on the Pathfinder II.

The Skipper would like to wish Micheal and his crew safe seas and good hauls with thier fine new vessel

Pathfinder II will be fishing for Whelks, Crab and Lobster using



large working deck.



Wheelhouse and hauling station.



Spencer Carter Hauler with rollers.



Gunwhale roller with Dual control station.



Wheelhouse.

spencer carter and Derek Noble
 Tel: 066 9474175
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 Lake Rd, Waterville, Co Kerry

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BEST WISHES AND SAFE FISHING TO MICHEAL, FAMILY & CREW ON YOUR NEW VESSEL "PATHFINDER II"

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHEAL, FAMILY & CREW OF THE "PATHFINDER II". WISHING YOU EVERY SUCCESS.

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G. SMYTH BOATS

We wish Micheal, family & crew many years of safe and successful fishing with your new vessel "Pathfinder II".

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHEAL, FAMILY & CREW ON THE ARRIVAL OF THEIR NEW VESSEL "PATHFINDER II".

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Best wishes and congratulations to Micheal, family & crew on your new vessel Pathfinder II.

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