

World's First Alternative-Fuel Power Boat Arrives in San Francisco

Revolutionary Wavepiercing Trimaran to Set World Circumnavigation Record
While Raising Awareness of Alternative Fuels

Earthrace on Display at PIER 39, Dock A, Fisherman's Wharf Friday Aug. 18
through Sunday Aug 20, 2006

PIER 39, San Francisco, CA - August 14, 2006 – Scheduled to arrive in San Francisco on Wednesday Aug 16, Earthrace (www.earthrace.net) is the world's first major powerboat record to be attempted using only alternative fuels. The boat is powered by 100% biodiesel, a fuel made from plant matter and animal fats that produces low emissions and is biodegradable. Equipped with two low emissions diesel engines, and built with high tech composite materials used in military aircraft, the boat has a unique wave-piercing hull designed to slice through waves.

Press Conference and Media Tours

Members of the press are invited to view the boat and meet the crew at 10AM on Thursday Aug 17 at Hyde Street Harbor. Earthrace Founder and Captain, Pete Bethune will be available for interviews and short excursions in San Francisco Bay. Additional interviews and viewings are available through Monday August 21 at PIER 39, Fisherman's Wharf. Please contact Robert van Gool at 415-552-8199 to attend the press briefing or schedule an appointment.

Promotional Tour

The Earthrace is on an 18 month promotional tour of 60 cities promoting the race while raising awareness of sustainable fuels, and to allow the public and media to view, and become involved with an exciting project. Part way into the tour, the record attempt will be made, starting and ending in Barbados. Earthrace will be on display at Pier 39 on Friday Aug. 18 through Sunday Aug 20.

World Record Bid

Earthrace is a bid to break the current UIM powerboat record for an equatorial circumnavigation via the Panama and Suez canals. Circumnavigating the globe represents the pinnacle of powerboat challenges, and at 24,000 nautical miles, is also the world's longest race. The current record of 75 days was set by British boat Cable & Wireless in 1998. The Earthrace aims to smash this record by completing the voyage in less than 65 days, and will mark the first time in history that an official UIM Powerboat record will be attempted using renewable fuel.

Revolutionary Design - Green Technologies

The Earthrace is a wavepiercing trimaran designed by renowned New Zealand naval architect Craig Loomis Design Group and built by Calibre Boats, a builder of high-tech custom yachts. It is a showcase of environmentally friendly

technologies such as low-emissions engines, non-toxic anti-foul and efficient hull design. In order to ensure the lowest weight and highest strength possible, the hull is constructed using carbon fiber and Kevlar. The boat is powered by 2 standard Cummins Mercruiser Diesel engines using only 100% biodiesel fuel. CMD engines were selected for their very low emissions, fuel efficiency, reliability and light weight. Finally, the ant-fouling paint is a natural non toxic wax.

Specifications

Hull: Wavepiercing Trimaran

Length: 78ft

Beam: 24ft

Draft: 4ft

Range: 3000nm (6000km)

Maximum speed: 45 knots (55 MPH)

Fuel: B100 Biodiesel (100%)

Fuel Capacity: 2500 gallons

Displacement: 10 ton

Construction: Carbon, Kevlar composites

Crew: 4

Beds: 8

Engines: 2 x 350kW (540 hp)

Cummins Mercruiser

Gearboxes: ZF 305A (single speed)

Air intakes: top of wings to remain above waves while piercing

