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ISSUE 34 – FREE WITH YACHTING WORLD



HOW COMANCHE SMASHED THE TRANSATLANTIC RECORD



MISSY 33M/108FT

This stunning new performance cruiser, British-designed inside and out, was built in foam-cored pre-preg carbon at Green Marine in Southampton and finished at parent company Vitters in the Netherlands. She now sports a carbon rig and ECSix rigging from Southern Spars.

Given these performance credentials it's logical to assume that the owners of *Missy* harbour desires to line up against the popular new 30-35m/100-115ft class at superyacht regattas. However, she was commissioned by a family who aim to sail to the Caribbean before they begin cruising worldwide.

So why carbon? *Missy's* Lymington-based designer Malcolm McKeon explains: "The owner loves sailing and is a very keen sailor. His old boat was built in composite and he wanted something that would perform well."

A carbon build for cruising demanded that particular attention was paid to noise insulation aboard. "You have to add weight for insulation, so it's not as light as we could have made it for a regatta-oriented boat," McKeon says.

The company used a thicker core in the structure than was normal to create this extra insulation. This has the benefit of requiring fewer internal frames, which means more volume for the furniture space.

Owner accommodation is located forward, where there is less disturbance from winch and propeller noise – McKeon points out that there are good seaberths located further aft.

McKeon's signature styling is evident in *Missy's* elegant lines,



particularly the long, low, flowing look to the glass-based coachroof. The skylight and whole of the aft end of the superstructure is made in glass. The glass features heat-reflective layers inside, helping to keep the saloon cool in warmer climes; see more on this technology on page 66.

Her low profile is maintained by an automatically folding bimini and dodger system that stows flush to the superstructure. The bimini has a hydraulically operated carbon frame, the dodger a pneumatically operated titanium frame. These offer protection from both sun and wind for offshore sailing. *Missy* also features a cockpit that is completely free of sailing systems.

Design Unlimited has created a contemporary interior using light grey-finished oak. McKeon describes the interior as light and airy, with a family friendly layout that includes a raised saloon with an adjoining open-plan galley on two levels, plus a TV snug. There are three guest cabins, two forward and one aft, plus a Pullman. *Missy* can accommodate four professional crew aft in an area that includes mess and mini-galley.



Top: *Missy's* hull being transported from Vitters' yard in Zwartsluis, the Netherlands
Above: her first sea trials in early August – note the curved glass to the aft superstructure
Right: designer Malcolm McKeon on sea trials with his son Matthew, *Missy's* skipper

