

Multihulls World

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A Nice Story

Phelippe Pouvreau, the architect and builder of this beautiful catamaran, settled 12 years ago in Aracaju, on the north coast of Brazil, His adventure began with the construction of a 60-footer, the Dolphin 600. The company then dedicated itself to building numerous custom catamarans and in 1999, Phelippe Pouvreau began building his first production catamaran, the Dolphin 430, about fifteen examples of which are still sailing in Brazil . 2004 was a real turning point for Dolphin, with the presentation of Dolphin 460 in the USA . The success of this boat allowed the builder to double the size of the production unit.

The dolphin 460 is now arriving in Europe, with a stand at the Paris Boat Show, before we see the boat 'for real' very soon...

The Philosophy Private Owners' Boats

The Dolphin was designed and built with the sole aim of being a private owner's boat! A boat which would suit long term voyagers as well as demanding owners wanting to enjoy regularly a boat which is both fast and livable. The Dolphin is thus equipped with daggerboards to optimize its pointing ability, a powerful rig and high-performance sails. As fro its construction, it allows the Dolphin to be both light and strong.

The accommodation is also designed for demanding owners, with stowage that is adapted and designed for living aboard. Finally, the finishing is of very good quality, the Brazilian craftsmen are well-known for their expertise and their talent! The Dolphin 460 takes nearly 20,000 hours to build; this is the price that has to be paid to obtain an impeccable finish. Note, however that each catamaran is in fact a semi-custom project each owner is free to choose between many accommodation possibilities, depending on their taste and choices.

A High-Performance Catamaran

With more than 20 Dolphin 460s sailing on the world's seas, and numerous delivery trips, the builder has a very good idea of his catamaran's sea-keeping qualities. Top speeds of more than 20 knots and 240 mile days are common, certain sailors even coming close to days at an average of over 12 knots... With its high-performance daggerboards, the Dolphin points well sailing to windward at between 32 and 36 degrees to the apparent wind...

But many details show that this catamaran's designers are above all, sailors. For example, the deck plan has been well designed and the visibility from the steering position is excellent...

The dolphin 460 has made a remarkable entry into the North American market. It is now attacking the European market with strong arguments, to appeal to lovers of beautiful fast boats designed exclusively for them.