

MotorBoating - February 2011

Innovation of the Year Award

INNOVATION

Aspen C90 Cruiser

The 28-foot Aspen C90 Cruiser is not your average boat. In fact, unless you've been spending time in the South Pacific, you've probably never seen anything like it. A trailerable catamaran with asymmetrical hulls, the Aspen C90 is modeled after a native proa, a design where one hull is significantly larger than the other.

In the Aspen C90, the starboard hull contains the

single 150 hp Cummins diesel, which pushes the boat to about 20 mph, while the port hull is about 35 percent smaller and contains no machinery at all. The result, says Aspen founder Larry Graf, is a boat that glides through the water and has 70 percent less drag than a same-size monohull.

Graf designed the C90 for both efficiency and comfort, and there's lots of room on board, starting with a king-size bed in the forward master stateroom; a quarter berth along the port side; a large

salon, which takes advantage of the cat's 10-foot beam; and a four-seat dinette that converts to a 6-foot 3-inch-long berth that can sleep two. Solar panels on the cabin roof recharge the batteries at anchor, and standard bow and stern thrusters make docking easy. aspenpowercatamarans.com

