New Outrage from Whaler

By Steve Knauth

Boston Whaler has been building boats since 1958, and the Outrage line of coastal fishing and sportboats from 21 to 29 feet remains one of its most popular. These multipurpose outboard boats are sought after by both hard-core anglers, and dayboating and water sports enthusiasts.

The latest in the Outrage lineup is the 320, new king of the fleet. With twin-engine power and a host of standard and optional features, the new Outrage will “replace the great white [shark] at the top of the food chain,” according to the company.

Like all Outrage boats, the 320 has a center console layout with the standard helm station and seat/leaning post for the skipper. The standard fiberglass T-top and windshield offer some protection from the weather, and form the basis for a variety of gear, including cockpit floodlights and a dome light. The unit also holds five rods and the boat’s supply of life jackets.

The console is set up to take the standard electronics, including GPS, fishfinder and VHF. Inside the console, there’s room for a V-berth marine head and a sink with a pullout shower. An optional butane stove adds versatility to the 320.

SPECS

LOA: 32 feet, 2 inches  BEAM: 10 feet, 3 inches  DRAFT: 1 foot, 10 inches  DISPLACEMENT: 8,500 pounds  TYPE: deep-vee  FUEL: 300 gallons  HULL: 600 gallons  PROPELLION: twin outboards to 600 hp  SPEED: unavailable  SUGGESTED PRICE: unavailable  CONTACT: Boston Whaler, 100 Whaler Way, Edgewater, FL 32141. Phone: (800) 942-5379. www.whaler.com

Thinsulate insulates against noise, too

By Rich Armstrong

Noise reduction is a selling point for some powerboat builders, and four companies that build high-end motorboats are stressing the use of 3M Marine’s Thinsulate Acoustic Insulation to deaden interior noise and improve thermal efficiency.

“Our goal was to build the quietest boat possible, while maintaining the performance our boats are known for,” Mike Osborne, sales manager for Pacific Mariner of LaConner, Wash., said in a statement.

Pacific Mariner builds only one model, a 65-foot luxury cruiser. It first incorporated Thinsulate about three years ago and “noticed a big difference in the sound levels,” Osborne says.

British motor yacht builder Fairline

3M’s Thinsulate Acoustic Insulation helps improve interior sound quality and increases thermal efficiency.

Yachts were sold on Thinsulate when tests revealed a 6-decibel (30-percent) drop in noise when the 3M product was installed on its Fairline 65. Thinsulate is used extensively in the builder’s new flagship, the $5 million Squadron 74.

3M says Thinsulate integrated throughout a boat’s living areas will reduce air conditioner noise, generator noise, and interior squeaks and rattles, creating a quieter overall living area and improving climate control. Suggested installation ideas from 3M include filling spaces behind cabinets and lockers, lining the overhead between the deck and headliner, filling the space between the hull and deck, and filling between the hull and liner.

Thinsulate is a water-repelling (hydrophobic) polymeric microfiber sound absorber that also improves thermal efficiency. Because Thinsulate is hydrophobic, it doesn’t support mold or mildew growth, according to 3M.

Jim Weaver compared the $2 million sportfishing yachts he builds at his

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