

Maine Coastal News

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FREE

SW Boatworks Launches DIRIGO II for Marine Patrol



S.W. Boatworks of Lamoine launched DIRIGO II at Abel Marine at the Head of Somes Sound on 15 January.

MOUNT DESERT—Launching a boat in the middle of January can be questionable since the weather could be more than unbearable with snow flying, temperatures below zero, winds screaming out of the northwest and thick ice in the water. I am not sure who had the in with the weather gods, but one could not ask for a better day in January with bright sun, a temperature near 50 degrees, a slight breeze and just a little ice floating around Somes Sound.

Almost a hundred people gathered at Abel Marine at the head of Somes Sound as SW Boatworks of Lamoine launched DIRIGO II for the State of Maine's Department of Marine Resources at 1100. There were a number of high ranking officials from DMR and there was plenty of press.

DIRIGO II is a Calvin Beal 38 and will be used as one of the major enforcement and safety tools for the Marine Patrol in Eastern Maine. She is powered with 700 hp C12 Caterpillar diesel engine and this will enable officers to get where they need to go more safely and a lot quicker in all types of weather.

Colin MacDonald, Marine Patrol Specialist, and the chief operator of the DIRIGO II, stated that his team looked at fishermen and the type of vessel they were using and knew they wanted something that they could do the same with. Colin MacDonald worked with SW Boatworks, Stewart Workman and his crew, to establish the set-up of the new

vessel so that it could do what they needed it to do. DIRIGO II is finished out like a split-wheelhouse lobster boat with dual steering stations. She also sports dual ram steering, a 14-inch stainless steel hauler, a computer work station, galley, berths, LED lighting, onboard cradle system, and open stern for ease of loading and off-loading.

DIRIGO II replaces DIRIGO I, which was a Young Brothers 35. She was sold to help cover the cost of the new boat and the remaining costs of the vessel was funded by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

DIRIGO II had been previously launched and given her sea trials so as to make sure everything worked as it should. At the official launching guests were given a brief trip down the Sound to show just what the new patrol boat will be able to do.

SW Boatworks has also announced a new model to their Calvin Beal line of boats. They will now be offering a Calvin Beal 42. She was designed to meet the demands of the customer base that wanted to haul more gear and have the same spaciousness and stability of the popular Calvin Beal 38. The 42 would easily accommodate a 500 to 1000 hp engine, depending on the speed the customer is looking for. Also with this design, the vessel would plane and cruise easily, thus increasing fuel efficiency. This model will be offered in a commercial lobster style boat and as a sportsfish/pleasure cruiser.



LADY LAUREN, a 38 Calvin Beal powered with a FPT C90 550 was launched at Bass Harbor. The boat was finished by Mike Light of Light Fiberglass in Corea. She has a Twin Disc 2.5:1 gear to a 32 x 34-inch propeller. She cruised at 21.5 knots and topped out at 23 knots. Her owner was extremely pleased with the boat and her speed. He was also pleased with the fuel consumption of just 17.5 gallons at cruising speed. It was also thought that if they add sprayrails she could gain about 5 mph to her cruising speed.



The designer's rendition of the new 42 finished out as a pleasure cruiser.

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