# Northland Trophy/NH-60


These two aluminium hulled craft are very special. Both prototypes, they are test beds for a new generation of gas turbine propelled sports cruisers and they aroused a great deal of attention at Dusseldorf. It is easy to see the attraction of gas turbines for sports cruisers, they are compact and light weight, smooth running, and they offer tremendous power outputs from a small package. However they are expensive and potential owners may be put off by the cost.

The turbines in both these boats are time-expired helicopter units marinised by Hezemans Rotax in Holland. This approach brings the turbine cost down to realistic levels and still leaves plenty of running hours for marine use.

In the NH-60 XP a triple turbine installation is used, Lycoming TF 53's of 1400 hp on each side, and a compact Allison 650hp unit on the centreline. Gas turbines like to run at full power for efficiency and this flexible arrangement allows this for most speed requirements.

These power units, coupled to Riva Lips water jets, are fitted to a Don Shead designed aluminium hull with a length of 18 metres (60ft). The powerful Shead hull lines are tailor made for the 70-knot top speed which the builders claim makes the NH-60 XP the fastest 60-foot sports cruiser on the market today.

The twin vertical exhaust fins are the dominant feature of the design, flanking the aft engine hatches. Round ports in the hatches allow a glimpse of the powerful turbines below. Forward of the engines is a deep cockpit which is teak lined. Twin bolster seats at the helm and a third to starboard provide secure places for the crew at speed and the dials at the helm are a clear indication that the engines in the boat are something different.

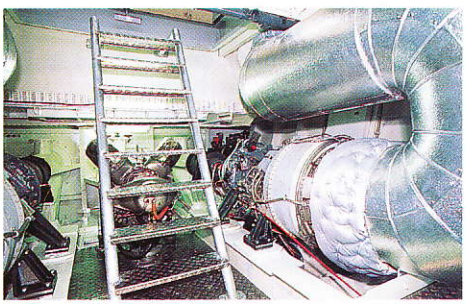
Below, the accommodation has been kept simple with a large, full width lounge with an entertainment centre to starboard and a settee to port which will convert into extra sleeping space. The only cabin is a large double forward and between this cabin and the lounge is the well equipped galley to port, and the bathroom to starboard. Alternative internal arrangements are of course possible.

The NH-60 XP is designed for fast, long range cruising, but if out and out performance is your requirement, then Northland's Trophy could be the answer. Designed by the Castro/Birkett design team, the Trophy is 15 metres (50ft) of pure power. Twin Rolls Royce Gnome gas turbines also from Hezemans Rotax, each produce 1000hp to power this deep-vee aluminium hull to speeds of around 100 knots making the Trophy probably the fastest production sports cruiser on the market today.

The raw power of the turbines is switched to the water through two MerCruiser Mark 6 drives. There is a generator to power the galley and air-conditioning, and in the accommodation lacquered wood and leather provide a quality combination. The cockpit is deep and fully-upholstered along race boat lines and a large sun bed covers the engine hatches, but only for use when stopped.

These two designs take the sports cruiser market into new areas. The aim has been to make the gas turbine a viable proposition at an affordable price. Whilst prices have still to be finalised, there can be no doubt about the high performance levels which these two prototypes will produce.

***Above left: Tony Castro/Peter Birkett-designed 16m Trophy. Above right and below: the Don Shead-designed NH-60 XP has a triple-turbine installation giving 70 knots. Its interior is bright and sporty and simple with just one large cabin forward***



## SPECIFICATION

| | NH-60 XP |
|---|---|
| **Length** | 18.05m (60 ft) |
| **Beam** | 4.41m (14ft 6in) |
| **Draught** | 1.80m (5ft 10in) |
| **Displacement** | 15 tonnes |
| **Engines** | 2 x 1400hp Textron Lycoming<br>1 x 650hp Allison (or a diesel option) |
| **Fuel capacity** | 5.200 litres (1200 gals) |
| **Speed** | 60/70 knots |
| | **TROPHY** |
| **Length** | 16.35m (52 ft) |
| **Beam** | 2.98m (9ft 9in) |
| **Draught** | 1.1m (3ft 7in) |
| **Displacement** | 7.5 tonnes |
| **Engines** | 2 x 1000hp Rolls Royce Gnome |
| **Fuel capacity** | 2.500 litres (550 gals) |
| **Speed** | 100 knots |
| **Builder** | Northland b.v.<br>Nieuwe Werk 6, 1781 Al Den Helder<br>Tel: +31 2230 32787<br>Fax: +31 2230 60215 |
| **UK Contact** | Med-Sale<br>Tel:+44 (0)1703 334444<br>Fax:+44 (0)1703 639835 |