



Above: Still photo taken from a video clip of the Nautic Star running offshore during its first sea trials. Below: This is a big, utilitarian boat suitable for a wide variety of uses, not least of which being the makings of an awesome charter fisherman.

S.A. AVCG'S New Nautic Star 7.8m WalkAround

Report by Di Ross, Still Photography by John Batty, Videography by Tanya Bacic

AVCG SA Flotilla 1 Commodore Ian Short (this time in his civvies) assists the Nautic Star team with the launch and retrieval of this big, wide-bodied rig at the launch ramp.



As always in these community projects, it's the team behind the scenes that do much of the legwork - a top effort fellas, congratulations on a fine craft.



Nautic Star is all about continuous improvement, innovation and customer satisfaction. This is very evident in the latest boat recently completed for the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard (AVCG) SA Flotilla 1, based at North Haven Marina.

The Coast Guard's faithful Kevlcat, after many years of service, was due for replacement. Ian Short, Commodore of SA Coast Guard North Haven made representation to Nautic Star with a list of specific requirements for the layout and class of survey.

Firstly, the vessel had to meet NSCV unrestricted 2C survey for a (minimum) six persons, with an enclosed centre cab wheelhouse to accommodate four persons in comfort. The overall vessel length was not to exceed 8m, with a beam no greater than 2.9m.

The vessel had to have a true and functional 360 degree walk around (not shuffle around) with a large aft deck that incorporated a safe gunwale height. The side shell also required adequate protection for the Coast Guard

NAUTIC Star 7.8M Coast Guard Vessel's Performance Data

FUEL and ACCOUSTICS: Twin Mercury 150hp

RPM	Knots	Fuel per Engine	DB Reading All Doors Open
2000	8.0	9.3	72
2500	11.2	12.7	77
3000	16.5	16.1	81
3500	22.0	21.5	76
4000	27.0	30.0	86
4600	31.0	36.0	88
5400	35.0	51.0	90

* At 2000rpm with the rear door closed (side doors open)

vessel to come alongside other vessels during duty operations.

After drawing up a basic GA, together with some stability calculations Nautic Star decided against the traditional RHIB format as the width of the 'Hypalon' collars were not going to allow for a true walk around arrangement nor adequate gunwale height. Instead Nautic Star utilised their designed and proven plumb bow hull, the only feasible method to meet all the criteria.

The result is a design which has a wider waterline beam at the transom and a more generous deck area aft of the cabin structure. This has delivered benefits in stability at rest and allowed in the design for the separation of the outboard installation to be increased to 1400mm between engine centres. In many respects the vessel has the feel of a 9m craft but with enhanced manoeuvring ability

Left: The energy and vision behind Nautic Star - Marko and Tanya Bacic

