

# F&B's Small Craft Section

## Horizon 3.5 m HD 'Sportsfisherman'

must recognise that with a weight ranging from 105-130 kg, it is at the top end of the roof topping scale.

However, providing the vehicle owner has equipped his car or 4WD with appropriate roof racks, (let alone the terrific Rhino Self Loading system featured on page 21), this Horizon 3.5 is a remarkably sophisticated sportfishing boat that you can (literally) dangle from the ceiling of a garage and lower on and off the roof of your vehicle – thus doing away with the whole boat trailer scene ie annual trailer registration fees, wheel bearing maintenance, tyre/wheel replacement and the need to store it all somewhere – on the ground.



Introducing the 5th version of a series of roof-topping fishing boats F&B has had built over the last 5 years. Each boat has offered significant improvements over its predecessor, with the result that this latest version is an exceptionally 'refined' craft. Best of all, it is now available as a production model from the Horizon factory.

**F**or a lot of people, both young and old, the notion of owning a boat is often hampered by any number of problems including a lack of spare cash, serious security issues, or probably the most common problem of all – somewhere to keep the boat that doesn't cost money every week.

So "roof topping" has considerable merit and relatively few disadvantages.

Conversely, the traditional alternative is to purchase a small, usually inexpensive trailer. This has advantages and disadvantages, too – but in either event, this Horizon 3.5 Sportsfisherman allows the consumer to make the choice that best suits his or her particular needs. And very few boats this length, do it as well.

This Horizon 3.55 works well as a legitimate rooftoper, but consumers

Conversely, 'roof topping' annoys many people. Not only does it involve getting the boat on and off the vehicle, there is a fair bit of work attached to getting everything hooked up, plugged in and the complete rig prepared for the water.

For them, if space permits, a simple little single axle trailer is a far better alternative. They can then leave the motor locked onto the transom, most of the fishing gear in situ, as well as the mandatory safety equipment.

For them, launching and retrieving a boat like this is merely a matter of driving it down to the nearest launchramp, putting it in, parking the trailer and taking off for a day on the water – an operation that should only take a few minutes coming and going.

Either way, the Horizon 3.55 fulfils

“ . . So when people talk to you about boats being unsinkable, especially tinnies, take these words onboard very, very carefully. There's hardly a tinnie made in Australia today that will remain afloat with its designed load onboard, in the boat, when it's been swamped. Heaps of them will remain in a semi-submerged state . . “so the victims can cling to the sides” but quite frankly, I think that's all bull dust . . ”

