

Ocean Cylinder 7300

Introducing one of the most unusual powerboats built in Australia, the Ocean Cylinder 7300. Manufactured in Brisbane, distributed throughout the South Pacific and fast becoming a legend in its own time, the Ocean Cylinder 7300 is making waves wherever it goes. Words & pics by Peter Webster.

The reason is very simple – this is a real head turning, jaw-dropping type of boat unlike anything else ever made in this country.

Comparisons are often made to the Ocean Cylinder range and the Stabcraft (also originally from NZ) but it's very hard to compare the two types of boats in real life.

The Ocean Cylinder style of boat has a cylindrical tube or tunnel right around its perimeter that rarely if ever touches the water.

Not so the Stabcraft. In a complete contrast, the Stabcraft cylinders (or “tubes” as they are sometimes called), are actually immersed in the water for most of the time as the outer cylinders form part of the bearing hull surface, ie they form part of the hull's hydrodynamics as it moves through the water.

Not so with the Ocean Cylinder. As the boat moves through the water the cylinders should just be kissing the surface only taking up buoyancy

or displacement when the boat settles down to either displacement speeds or is at rest.

F&B purchased an Ocean Cylinder 7.3 from Queensland Ships more than 12 months ago and has used it in a variety of roles, but predominantly, it's been the camera boat for the bulk of our work in that field. It's performed extremely well in its tour of duty, and has amazed all and sundry with both its ride qualities and stability.

This latter issue – stability – is

