



The Pakula Shredder: Ground Breaking: The World's First 3-D Printed Marlin Lure . .

I have just come back from a short trip to Fraser Island's Breaksea Spit, looking for the first wave of juvenile black marlin that I knew were on their way.

I got to test a new lure design for the first time and to say it was a hot producer and fish raiser, well, that would be an understatement!

That morning bite, we ended up 8-6-2 (8 hits, 6 hookups, 2 tagged) on little bills and a lone cobia and the majority of the hits and fish raised were on the little Pakula Shredder, Vamp in Lumo being swum off the long outrigger!

So where did this great little lure come from?

Down in a house on the Gold Coast is a man called Peter Pakula, who, for the better part of my adult life, has been making world class lures aimed at gamefish.

Peter Pakula and I had a Skype interview recently due to a very exciting product he's come up with.

It's a 3-D printed lure! 3-D printing, or Additive Manufacturing, is whereby a computer, using CAD (computer aided design) tells the "printer" to lay successive layers of material. These objects can be of almost any shape or geometry, and are produced from

As noted in the Editorial this month, it is with great pleasure we welcome Aaron back, as he re-joins the team after an enforced absence that was way too long . . . but that's all history now, and we look forward to Aaron getting back on his feet, getting back out into the field, and doing what he does best: catching fish, and showing we ordinary folk how to make a better fist of it!

a 3D model or some other electronic data source. A 3D printer is a type of industrial robot.

So how the heck did Peter come up with using an "industrial robot" over the tried and proven hand poured or injection moulded styles of production?

The Shredder series was first thought of during a discussion between Peter Pakula and Kyle Peet when they met up in the Bahamas. Kyle Peet is a young skipper who runs a 54ft charter game boat called *No Quarter*. His business is www.noquartersportfishing.com and he fishes Florida, Bahamas, and Maryland, and it's the Bahamas where Peter Pakula caught up with him and the Shredder idea was hatched.

Kyle saw a gap in most lure maker's catalogues since he was after lures that worked at slower speeds when used on multi lure and/or bait teaser rigs called Dredges. For the uninitiated, a Dredge is a billfish teaser that consists of 2 or more stainless steel or titanium arms that have a swivel tow point that allows a string of lures or baits to be towed from the extremity of each arm. It's designed to resemble a fleeing baitfish school. Some dredges have up to 50 or more lures/baits on the one dredge!

Think of an umbrella and strip away the fabric, then tie a string of lures off each wire and you will get the picture.

To get the action required for Kyle's needs, Peter went back to one of his shapes that have a lot of action at low speed, the Long Chugger, later rebranded the Fox, Vamp, Patriot, Chatterbox and Sumo depending on lure size.

But it wasn't just the shape that did the trick.

The 3-D printing, which when extruding, looks kind of like a soft serve sundae, allowed Peter to add a large, sealed chamber in the head of the lure for maximum buoyancy and action.

This lighter head gives the lure its ability to work effectively from 4 knots which for many is bait trolling speed!

This lightness will benefit trailer boat anglers who do not own outriggers, fishos who struggle to get decent action out of their lures being pulled from flat lines, or anglers who fish bent-butt heavy tackle rods which typically, due to the rods flat angle to the water, deaden most lures.

The liveliness in the Shredders will be a massive benefit in these two demographics.

Also, due to the wide range of working speeds and the fact that they float, they look set to make great teasers for fly fishing and conventional bait-and-switch anglers too.

Along with his years of delving into hydrodynamics that work, plus this added buoyancy, Peter added 4 Venturi jets (Google Giovanni Battista Venturi, the Italian physicist 1746-1822 if you need to





know more about the Venturi effect!) and 4 large, normal full length jets which makes this lure smoke along from 4 knots all the way up to 18knots !

Yes, 18! *That is no misprint!*

Ben Colvin, a member of my gamefishing club and an experienced skipper, pushed them all the way to 18 knots in their trials!

They will run in any typical trolling position too, which floored me a little since the shape is a classic short corner/short rigger shape. Made me eat my words when I put it out on the long rigger and it swam like a champion, with a pop-smoke cycle of about every 3-4 seconds at 6-7 knots.

So, as you can see, from a tech standpoint, there have been a lot of benefits from going to 3-D printing for this part of Peter's range.

The future holds a whole range of differing head designs, both in Peter's more usual cupped face designs but also in slice/slant faces too.

Due to the way that they are made, they will never win a beauty contest since they cannot have the pau inserts or large eyes like the rest of Peter's range.

Adding eyes mucks up the balance. Sure, it adds



extra time to machine in areas for eyes to be glued in and would add cost, but that is not the negative. It's upsetting the balance that is the larger issue.

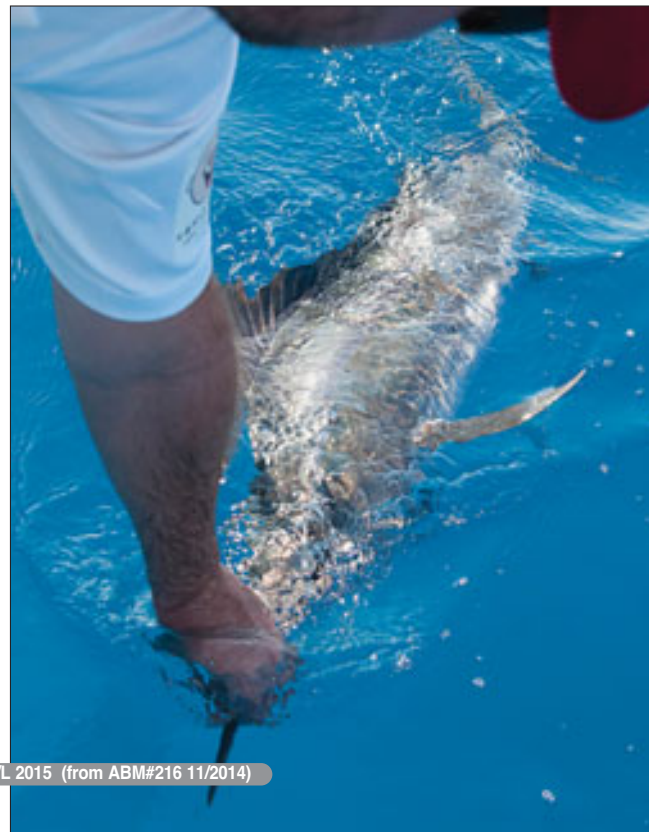
So they may not look as pretty as his polished heads that have inserts, though anyone who has had a few seasons under their belt will see the value in running these very effective lures.

But hang on, did Kyle Peet get one to use? Of course! He got one of the prototypes and after having that lure in the water for 2 days he had raised 6 white marlin on it using as a teaser!

Since it was the Vamp, size 25 that did all the damage for me on the first trip, I look forward to running the Lumo, Chatterbox, size 40 on my next heavy tackle run.

Available through www.pakula.com.au or your local Pakula stockist.

ABM



This happy couple holding the marlin is Brendon van Ras and his girlfriend, Karen Attree. It's Karen's first marlin, and the first billfish for the Surfers Paradise Game and Sport Fishing Club calendar.