

AS SEEN IN



The MultiPanel Boat hits the Water

The 5.9m boat built by DKG Marine has MultiPanel stringers glassed to the hull and MultiPanel was also vacuum bagged into the deck and cockpit structure to save weight and add enormous strength. See article (right) which appeared in Mariner Business November 2006.



Success with Multipanel

STEVE WILSON, a competitive fisherman who ranks in the top 20 in Australia, regularly competes in the ABT National Bream Series.

The top four in each round go through to the grand final and the winner of the grand final goes through to the Australian Fishing Championships which is televised on Channel Ten throughout the summer. This is very serious business for Steve and his sponsors with coverage on TV and in fishing and boating magazines around the country.

Steve decided to upgrade his 4.75m aluminium tournament

fishing boat to a 5.9m Attack Boat built by Drew Griffiths from DKG Marine in Burleigh Heads.

Drew and Steve have been working with a product called Multipanel, one of the sponsors of the project. Multipanel manufactures a composite panel in Melbourne and to date, has been used extensively in the marine industry for internal fitout, floor, wall and ceiling linings in Fusion 40s and other catamarans, yachts, houseboats, caravans and motorhomes.

Drew and Steve agreed to use Multipanel for the first time in the actual construction of the hull of the

boat. Multipanel stringers have been glassed to the hull and Multipanel has been vacuum bagged into the deck and cockpit structure to save weight and add enormous strength. The boat dry weight without motor is 650kg, which is very light for a boat of this size.

"The more I use this product the more I like it," says Drew,

adding that using Multipanel has enhanced the overall positive floatation of the boat. Its positive buoyancy, which will exceed the survey requirements, will result in a much safer boat.

The foam panels with added fire retardants are very easy to work with and have good sound deadening properties. It is a good insulator and the product lends itself to many techniques in boat building. Multipanel can be supplied pre-drilled and sanded ready to use for vacuum bagging or resin infusion.

The boat will be powered by a 150hp E-tec Evinrude motor supplied by BRP. Other sponsors are Lowrance, supplying sounders and GPS, and also Berkley. Pure Fishing, supplying lures and braid lines. The boat has been built to survey and Steve hopes one day to start chartering his new boat for specialised tours and fishing trips.

For information on Multipanel call (03) 97872544 or visit www.multipanel.com.au



Multipanel improves boat strength and safety.