

PURSUIT 26 DUAL CONSOLE

By Capt. John N. Raguso



A PREQUEL OF SORTS

It's not everyday we get to scoop everyone, but this week's On the Water review is just that, sort of like a prequel. Although the first Pursuit 26 DC is being prepped as you read this, there is much that we know about her spring-time debut, and *Fisherman* readers are first to find out.

This new Pursuit's over-wide beam offers as much uncluttered cockpit space as you are likely to find on any competitive 26-footer. With a helm-forward design and a forward facing folding doublewide bench seat aft, the cockpit area opens up to create a formidable sport fishing or party platform. This new sportfisher should be equally adept at water skiing, wake boarding, beach taxi service, or just hanging out in the backbays. This Pursuit's lineage demands nothing but the best angling support equipment that comes standard, allowing her to multi-task at a variety of planned on-the-water missions.

Standard fishing equipment on the 26 DC will include a lighted, insulated livewell and an insulated fishbox tucked under flush hatches set in the transom cap. Cockpit raw water washdown is also standard as are flush gunwale-mounted rodholders. There is lockable horizontal rod storage accessed via a center floor hatch, with an additional three-rod storage rack available under the starboard coaming board. There's a transom door set into the starboard corner aft, along with a standard telescoping boarding ladder that stows neatly into a flush hatch positioned in the aft deck. You can walk forward to the bow through a flip-out center windshield section that is manufactured from a sturdy anodized aluminum frame with tempered glass inserts. Up forward, there are twin raised bench seats port and starboard, with dry stowage down under. This layout is ergonomically designed for both pleasure cruisers and anglers; the added forward seating is useful when spending a day exploring the backbay areas.

The walk-through area also allows totally unimpeded access to the bow, so it also makes an excellent fishing perch to fight large gamefish under the watchful eye of the navigator and away from potentially disastrous obstacles like trim tabs and engine props. A recessed anchor locker set in the forepeak is accessed via a flush deck hatch and allows you to stow rode and hook out from underfoot and ready for immediate deployment. The starboard

S P E C S

LENGTH	25 FEET, 10 INCHES
BEAM	8 FEET, 9 INCHES
WEIGHT	TBD
DEADRISE AFT	21 DEGREES
FUEL CAPACITY	150 GALLONS
WATER CAPACITY	20 GALLONS
HOLDING TANK CAPACITY	380 GALLONS
MAX POWER	700 HP (twin F350 V-8 outboards)



command console includes a tempered glass windshield, Ritchie compass, engine gauges and controls, a windshield wiper, a roomy vertical bulkhead area to accommodate your preferred suite of marine electronics, a drink holder, 12-volt outlet, console glove box/storage area, plus some storage room down below.

The port console features its own dedicated aluminum windscreen section, an infused fiberglass head compartment with manual porcelain marine toilet with holding tank, a freshwater faucet, plus interior lighting. Besides the fold-down bench aft and twin molded fiberglass benches with backrests in the bow, there's a portside fold-down

cockpit seat, plus port and starboard fiberglass modules at the helm with a pedestal chair for the captain and a bench seat with backrest to port.

POWER OPTIONS

Based on an overall length of 25 feet, 10-inches with a spacious 8-foot, 9-inch beam, the Pursuit 26 DC takes to the water sporting a 21-degree aft deadrise deep-vee running bottom and is meant to be powered by a single Yamaha V6 or V8 outboard. Prospective owners can choose between one of the new lightweight 4.2-liter Offshore F250 or F300 V6 four-strokes (at only 558 pounds), or the proven F350 (830-pound) 5.7-liter V8 that was introduced a few years back and produces massive low-end torque while still offering fuel-efficient midrange cruising speeds and an exciting top end.

The structural backbone on the 26 Dual Console is provided courtesy of a resin-infused fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) one-piece stringer grid, with high-tech bi-axial and tri-axial reinforcements used throughout. Options on this newbie will include a fiberglass hardtop, additional vertical rodholders mounted to the hardtop, a complete Raymarine electronics package, outriggers, canvas covers and more.

The Pursuit folks are still working up the final net weight of the hull and the MSRP as you are reading this and some of the stated standard and optional features stated here might change come April on the production boats, so be advised. Like all Pursuits, the soon-to-be-introduced 26 DC is backed by a transferable five-year hull and deck structural warranty. For more information, call 772-465-6006, or visit www.pursuitboats.com.