

All American Marine delivers a 25m research vessel to USNOAA

'Manta'



All American Marine has successfully delivered a 25-metre x 9-metre Teknicraft-designed research catamaran built under contract for the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The R/V 'Manta' will operate in the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, located 161km offshore, directly south of the Louisiana-Texas border. The 'Manta', NOAA's fifth Teknicraft-designed catamaran built by All American Marine, is the most advanced and versatile vessel commissioned by the sanctuary programme.

The 'Manta' will host a variety of research missions and visiting scientists concentrating on seafloor mapping, habitat characterisation, data collection, and the monitoring of the health of ocean species and reefs. Designing a flexible platform that could quickly and easily be reconfigured depending on the current mission was critical for NOAA's research purposes.

The 'Manta' features over 213m² of working space on the aft deck, with a complete complement of working gear and an extensive grid of deck sockets. The deck sockets are spaced every half metre and allow equipment and gear to be secured, moved, or removed from the working deck. The AAM custom-fabricated twin dive benches mount via the deck sockets and accommodate a total of 20 divers and their gear. Oversized dive platforms connect to the transoms of each hull and the port side platform has been designed so that it can

dually function as a docking and boarding platform for the 'Manta's' 4.7m rigid inflatable tender skiff.

The 'Manta' features an onboard Nitrox compressor, a fully equipped dive bottle fill station, three dive showers, and a private head located on the aft working deck.

The working deck also contains a Morgan Marine articulating knuckle crane and a hydraulically actuated A-frame with two-tonne SWL.

The 'Manta's' scientific capabilities are further enhanced through a Markey Machinery Com-7H scientific winch and a Kinematics Marine hydraulic trawl winch mounted on the upper deck.

The 'Manta' is powered by twin Caterpillar C32 ACERT engines, each delivering 1,193kW at 2,300rpm. The propulsion package includes ZF 3050 transmissions which drive HamiltonJet HM 571 water jets. The vessel cruises at 27 knots and can reach speeds topping 34 knots. The 'Manta's' fuel consumption is excellent, using approximately 19 litres per nautical mile at speeds ranging from 22 knots to 31 knots fully laden. A range of 650 nautical miles is possible with the 13.6m³ fuel capacity inclusive of reserves.

Similar to the other NOAA catamarans built by All American Marine, the 'Manta' utilises hydrofoil technology and the Teknicraft Design signature hull shape. The semi-displacement catamaran hull shape developed by Teknicraft Design of Auckland, New Zealand provides a smooth ride while producing extremely low wake wash energy.

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'Manta'

SPECIFICATIONS

Type of vessel:	Research Vessel
In survey to:	USCG Subchapter T
Home port:	Galveston, Texas
Owner/operator:	Nation Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, USA
Designer:	Teknicraft Design, New Zealand
Builder:	All American Marine, USA
Construction material:	Aluminum
Length overall:	25.2 metres
Length waterline:	22.5 metres
Beam:	9.14 metres
Draught:	1.06 metres
Main engines:	2 x Caterpillar C32 ACERT, each 1,193kW at 2,300rpm
Gearboxes:	2 x ZF 3050
Propulsion:	2 x HamiltonJet HM 571
Generators:	2 x Northern Lights M1064-T2 65kW
Steering system:	HamiltonJet and Jastram
Maximum speed:	34 knots (lightship)
Cruising speed:	27 knots (fully laden)
Range:	623 nautical miles (fully laden with reserves)
Hydraulic equipment:	Hydraulic A-frame with 2 tonnes SWL
Radar:	Furuno FR-1833 C NT (NavNet)
Depth sounder:	Furuno ETR-6/10N
Radio:	Icom M504 VHF
Winches:	Kinematics Marine hydraulic trawl winch; Markey Machinery Com-7H hydraulic scientific winch
Capstan/Windlass:	Kinematics Marine hydraulic anchor winch