

FULL SPEED AHEAD

Aston Martin and Quintessence Yachts' AM37 begins to take shape.

By SAM YEN

A hybrid carbon-fiber composite structure and balance combine with the high-tech composite materials used in the construction of the vessel hull to provide the rigidity and strength Aston Martin car owners expect.

Aston Martin and Quintessence Yachts are collaborating on an exceptional powerboat, dubbed the AM37. Some touted revolutionary features remain under wraps, but what has been revealed is the AM37's unique sliding deck, comprising three carbon panels that fold under the aft deck to uncover the

cockpit. The deck may also be raised to allow access to the engine room, storage compartments and trunk top.

Most of the components, including the air conditioning, fridge and espresso machine, can be controlled remotely so that not a moment is wasted the minute the boat is started.

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The 11.3m AM37, which features naval architecture from Holland's Mulder Design, will come in two variants: the grand tourer AM37 and the speedier AM37S. Both of these versions will be built in resin-infused composite and carbon fiber near Southampton, England.

The AM37 will zip along at a speedy top

speed of 90 knots, while the AM37S ups the ante with a vigorous 60 knots.

When it finally hits the waters later this year, the AM37 will be a thing of beauty embodying the essence of the brand, and what Aston Martin and Quintessence hope will be a breath of fresh air in a marina.

www.quintessenceyachts.com