



## **VESSEL REVIEW/NEWS RELEASE**

### **10 JULY 2000**

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#### ***'WATER RATS' MAKE THEIR DEBUT***

#### ***Seven 16 metre and Two 22 metre Police Vessels***

#### ***delivered to Sydney, Australia***

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Western Australian shipbuilder, Austal has delivered three of nine new generation police boats for the New South Wales Police Service, Water Police Branch. Arriving in Sydney Harbour in an impressive convoy, the first three vessels, "Vigilant", "Vanguard" and "Victor" will be joined by the remaining six by the end of July, in time for the naming ceremony that will take place in early August.

Taking delivery of the first three aluminium monohulls, Sergeant Graeme Jamieson, Project Manager for the contract said, "The project management and quality control systems of the shipyard have been excellent. The Police delivery crew has remarked on the excellent seagoing ability of these vessels, particularly in heavy seas. I am confident that this Service now has technologically superior and safe platforms to substantially increase marine criminal interdiction and improve our search and rescue capability".

Sales Manager, Malcolm Swaddle said, "The enthusiasm at which the vessels have been received by the NSW Police is a credit to the skills of our design and production team. These vessels have all been delivered on time and have demonstrated our capability to optimize designs specifically to match the operator's requirements."

The new fleet, consisting of two 22 metre vessels (Class 1) and seven 16 metre vessels (Class 2) will be phased into duty in time for the Sydney Olympics. Replacing many of the existing vessels in the Police Fleet, the new 'Water Rats' will significantly enhance water policing capabilities and marine search and rescue along NSW's coast and are capable of operating to the edge of the 200 nautical miles Exclusive Economic Zone.

Common tasks to be performed by these sophisticated craft will include:

- Executing all aspects of law enforcement and public order on the waterways and coastal areas of N.S.W;
- Conducting marine search and rescue operations;
- Combating marine criminal activities;

- Investigating marine related activities i.e. deaths, accidents, water traffic regulations etc;
- Marine security in Sydney during the Olympic Games.

The 16 metre vessels will be based in Coffs Harbour, Port Stephens, Newcastle, Broken Bay, Sydney, Sans Souci and Port Kembla, with the two 22 metre monohulls joining the 16 metre vessels in Coffs Harbour and Sydney. Normal patrol durations are ten days for the 22 metre vessels and four days for the 16 metre vessels.

With a maximum speed of 28.5 knots, design aspects of the monohull Class 1 and Class 2 vessels (designed by the shipyard's in-house design team) are specifically tailored to meet the needs of the N.S.W police. The vessels have a planing aluminium hull form with a varying dead-rise, as opposed to the more common monohedron form, with the waterline entry providing the least resistance at full operational speed whilst at the same time providing a design that delivers maximum comfort in varied sea conditions. Overall, the vessels are excellent examples of good working platforms, are durable and flexible in their operation and have demonstrated excellent seakeeping qualities.

The new generation police boats feature a wide range of on-board facilities including a practical and very durable interior fitout. Each vessel has two main watertight living areas comprising of crew accommodation suitable for short periods of time (2 x twin berth cabins for 16 metre vessels and 3 x twin berth cabins for 22 metre vessels). Cabins aboard the smaller Class 2 vessel's feature sliding cabin walls enabling the cabin area to be opened up to provide a more usable space for certain mission profiles. A fully equipped galley, crew mess, first aid facilities and adequate operational space are also featured aboard each vessel.

The deck layout for each class of vessel has been specifically designed to facilitate the required functions essential to the vessels' day-to-day operations. Each vessel has limited towing capacity via a towing stanchion with the main focus targeted towards assisting small vessels in distress. Gates in the side bulwarks assist in the removal of objects from the water in addition to providing easy ship to shore access. Each vessel also features showers, dive platforms and storage space for diving equipment. In addition to this, special emphasis has been placed on safety with the minimum number of trip points and well placed bulwarks and handrails contributing to a safe and efficient work area.

The 22 metre vessels feature a 4.5 metre semi-inflatable daughter vessel (stowed and launched off a stern ramp recessed into the main deck) used for general transport and patrol purposes. The semi-inflatable also extends the police boat's ability for pursuit into shallow waters and provides an alternative means to assist vessels and or people in distress. The Class 1 vessels also have a small knuckle boom crane situated on the bridge to assist in the loading of stores.

With the bridge essentially being the operational working heart of the vessel, special emphasis has been placed on providing a design that encompasses 360-degree vision, safe and comfortable seating positions for the helm, watch and work stations and a distinct separation of the command and surveillance functions. In addition to these features, the 16 metre vessels incorporate the shipyard's 'maxi-vision' concept or split-level wheelhouse. Specialised

electronics equipment (common to both vessel types) includes Raytheon R1210/6XX Radars, Nav 420 DGPS system, Electronic Chart Display, Saura Magnetic Compass, Raytheon L750 Echo Sounder, Satcomm satellite communications system and encrypted computer generated data and image transmission systems.

Both Class 1 and Class 2 vessels also feature external flybridges from which the vessels can be driven. The flybridges have permanent bimini tops and removable windscreens allowing operation in inclement weather conditions. Safety equipment installed on each vessel includes life jackets, 2 x Solas life rafts and 4 x Solas life buoys.

### **Principal Particulars – 16.0 metre and 22.0 metre Police Boats**

<b>16.0 METRE POLICE BOAT</b>		<b>22.0 METRE POLICE BOAT</b>	
<b>Principal Dimensions</b>		<b>Principal Dimensions</b>	
Length Overall:	16.0 m	Length Overall:	22.0 m
Length Waterline:	14.23 m	Length Waterline:	17.91 m
Overall Beam:	4.88 m	Overall Beam:	5.50 m
Draught:	1.20 m	Draught:	1.50 m
Speed (max):	28.5 knots	Speed (max):	28.5 knots
Range:	400 nm @ 20 knots	Range:	600 nm @ 20 knots
Total Crew:	4	Total Crew:	6
<b>Propulsion</b>		<b>Propulsion</b>	
Engine:	2 x Scania DI 12 42	Engine:	2 x MAN D2842 LE408
Gearbox:	2 x Twin Disc Mg 5114 1A	Gearbox:	2 x ZF BW155
Propellers:	2 x Teignbridge Aquaquad	Propellers:	2 x Teignbridge Aquaquad
USL Survey Requirement:	Class 2B – 200nm offshore	USL Survey Requirement:	Class 2B – 200nm offshore

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