

Pursuit

www.pursuitboats.com

The big news is that Malibu Boats has signed a definitive agreement to acquire the assets of Pursuit Boats from S2 Yachts. A Malibu statement said the purchase is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2018. Malibu, which acquired Cobalt Boats in June 2017, said the acquisition would expand its brand offerings into the saltwater outboard fishing market. It also said it would give the company the ability to leverage manufacturing, design expertise and distribution to accelerate outboard growth. Pursuit, located in Fort Pierce, Florida, builds 15 models of offshore, dual console and center console boats. The saltwater outboard fishing market is one of the largest and fastest growing segments in the marine industry, and Pursuit is considered one of the leaders in that sector.

Pursuit Boats recently introduced its all-new S288, which joins a family of boats that include the S408, S368 and S328 models introduced over the last two years. The Sport series styling continues with the new S288, which features an overall length of 30 feet. Other notable standard features include the oversized fiberglass integrated hardtop and tempered safety glass windshield system, updated classic sheer line, through-stem anchor system and integrated transom extensions. The roomy console includes a fully enclosed head. On deck, seating with storage is available in the bow area and aft in the cockpit, providing room for family and friends. Other features on the S288 include a 24-gallon livewell, large in-floor fishboxes and plenty of storage for rods, lures and other gear. A standard hull side door makes it easy to slide a large fish on deck or enter the cockpit from the water after a dive. Teak accents around the helm add a touch of warmth and style to the focal point of the Sport model. Fold-away transom and aft-facing seats may be deployed to entertain dockside. The S288 has a fuel-efficient cruising speed of 30.8 mph while turning only 3,500 rpm rigged with her standard power, twin Yamaha F300s. I had a chance to step aboard at the recent Ft Lauderdale Boat show, and this Pursuit S-Series is as pretty, functional and head-turning as her three bigger sisters.



World Cat

www.worldcat.com

World Cat's new 296DC dual console catamaran combines its best-selling 29-foot hull with an all-new look and multi-use dual console layout for 2019. The model boasts an overall length of 29 feet 1 inch, with a wide stable beam of 9-1/2 feet. Available space in the boat is extremely generous, both for seating and storage. One of a catamaran's greatest benefits is the oversized bow area that seats eight comfortably, and the 296DC's new cockpit layout features aft-facing softback seats with safety handrails, a 25-gallon livewell located underneath the port side seat, and a 125-quart fishbox located in the starboard seat box. New port and starboard rod racks with molded-in toe kicks flank the aft cockpit and the huge onboarding swim platform sports World Cat's famous dive ladder system. This creates one of the widest, safest and most comfortable ways to board and exit a boat. The new instrument panel design, combined with a sleek lower-profile powder-coated hardtop frame with hand-finished surfboard top, complete a svelte new look for this proven offshore cat.

Additional features onboard the new 296DC include a lockable, dedicated rod storage area underneath the port bow seating storage box (with easy access inside the head compartment), USB outlets, stainless steel cup holders, courtesy lighting in the bow, a forward insulated 225-quart fishbox with overboard drain located underneath the starboard bow seating area, and one of the roomiest head compartments of any boat in this size range.

Like her sister cats, the 296DC offers a softer ride with high-speed performance; more stability at rest; greater handling ability and a better ride in all kinds of seas compared to a monohull of similar size. A shallower draft allows owners to sneak into skinny waters. This cat's wide and stable profile also offers greater load bearing capabilities, more usable deck space, and minimum bow rise for greater visibility and easier docking and maneuverability. Also new for 2019 is the new flagship of the fleet, the 400DC-X Dual Console.

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Sailfish

www.sailfishboats.com

The big news for Sailfish is that there's a new queen of the fleet for this Georgia-based boat builder. The long-awaited 360CC made her debut at the recent Ft Lauderdale boat show, and I was able to jump aboard to take a closer look. With an overall length of 36 feet supported by a beam of 11 feet 2 inches, she has a weight-to-beam ratio of 3.24:1, which translates that she should blast through opposing head seas when underway with minimal bounce and fatigue to the crew. The deep-v entry angle and VDH hull design, combined with her dry weight of 12,700 pounds should all collaborate

