



IN THE CLUB

PERFORMANCE BOATS FROM EAST AND WEST COMBINED FOR THE MOST ELITE FLEET IN THE HISTORY OF POWERBOAT MAGAZINE'S ANNUAL SPEED ROUNDUP.

As much as we hate superlatives, there's one that's unavoidable when it comes to this year's 100-mph roundup—fastest. The numbers just don't lie.

We're talking about the fastest catamarans we've ever tested with the Eliminator 36 Speedster and the 44 MTI both reaching 169 mph.

Not enough for you? How about the fastest V-bottom we've ever run courtesy of a Fountain 42 Poker Run Edition humming along at 142 mph.

At 115 mph, the 277 was the fastest Ultra Custom Boats catamaran we've ever tested. We also piloted our fastest offering to date from Dave's Custom Boats—the Mach F-32 that reached 161 mph. Then came our fastest Spectre to date, which hit 139 mph.

And there was the "700 Club," V-bottoms powered by twin Mercury

Racing HP700SCi engines. Leading the charge was the P1-circuit-inspired 41 Super Leggera from Outerlimits Powerboats, which ran 115 mph, followed by the new-for-2008 LaveyCraft 39 Evo that hit 110 mph. Far from slouches, the Nor-Tech 3900 Super Vee and the Donzi 43 ZR also reached 100 mph with the 700-horsepower motors.

Heck, even the outboard-power faction was represented. Powered by a pair of 300-hp outboards, an E-Ticket catamaran hit 107 mph.

Of course, it all happened with expert test drivers Bob Teague and John Tomlinson at the controls, and safety/rescue crews at the ready. For as thrilling as speed can be, it must always be approached with respect and caution.

Welcome to the club. Now, go past the velvet ropes and enjoy the sights.