

2009 AWARDS FOR PRODUCT EXCELLENCE
OUTSTANDING DECK BOAT WORKMANSHIP



TEST RESULTS

Centerline/beam
30/8'10"

Hull weight/fuel capacity
7,000 pounds/130 gallons

Price as tested
\$379,655

Engine
(2) Ilmor Marine MV-10 625

Cubic-inch displacement/hp
505/625

Propeller
Mercury Maximus 15 1/4" x 33"

Zero to 20 seconds
69 mph

40 to 60 mph
6.7 seconds

Top speed at rpm
119.7 mph at 5,700

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DAVE'S CUSTOM BOATS *30 Sport Deck*

What's more impressive than a custom-made deck boat that runs almost 120 mph on a pair of 625-horsepower engines and handles like a dream? How about one that's built with enough attention to detail to qualify it as a work of art.

That's an accurate, if a little understated, description of the 30 Sport Deck from Dave's Custom Boats. To begin with, the 30-footer boasted vacuum-bagged construction with vinylester resin and Penske composites. In typical DCB fashion, the builder capped the boat at the bow and stern but installed a neat stainless-steel strip to hide the hull-and-deck joint and provide protection at the docks.

And the 30 Sport Deck definitely was worth protecting. Its colors seemed to explode from the gelcoat, and its tooling was astounding. A study in hard angles, the mold work for the deck was as precise as any we've seen.

When it came to rigging the engines, which were painted silver to match one of the primary colors in the 30 Sport Deck's vibrant graphics, the crew at DCB installed the big-blocks using custom-made mounts. Sweating the details, the builder sanded the gelcoat-covered bilge to a smooth finish and used evenly spaced cushion clamps to support all of the wires and hoses.

From the grab handles to the inserts for the tiered swim platform, which had a retractable ladder on the underside of the center section, all hardware on the boat was billet. The only exceptions were the stainless-steel push-pin-style fender holders.

The 30 Sport Deck from Dave's Custom Boats set the standard for custom deck-boat construction. This one was such a stunner that the owner might not want to take it out on the water—and that would be a crime. **P**

► For the Performance Report on the Dave's Custom Boats 30 Sport Deck, see "Loaded Deck," January 2009, Page 58.



From left: From the helm to the controls installation, the fit and finish of the boat was flawless. The engine hatch raised high to show off the expertly rigged Ilmor Marine MV-10 big-blocks. Constructed in-house at DCB, billet grab handles were placed throughout the 30 Sport Deck.