

MODERN BOATING



in the stable, and yes, she is trailable (if you have a tow vehicle rated to 3 tonne that is), but a small boat she ain't.

Being a cat it's reasonable to compare this boat with considerably larger mono hulls in terms of interior space and especially bluewater handling. In fact, if

anyone's looking for an offshore fishing boat that's trailable, safe in remote areas, capable of accommodating two people in comfort for a few days and able to handle the rough stuff, here it is.

As far as ride and handling go, every time I've crossed northern Moreton Bay in a Powercat, that hit song from the movie *Easy Rider*, *Magic Carpet Ride*, plays in my head. Why? Because when you've had as many poundings

crossing the Bay as I have, a 'magic carpet' is the only way to describe a Powercat's ride. About the only thing the 2400 Sports Cab compares poorly with on northern Moreton Bay is a larger Powercat. The breed quite clearly defines all that's good about power catamarans in rough water. But this boat is also super stable at rest. It's rock solid, thanks to her twin hulls and extremely aggressive chines.

The test Powercat ran a pair of extremely quiet 90hp Suzuki four-strokes and we

could still have a conversation without raising our voices too much, even when going flat out at 33.7 knots. The hull can hold on the plane at speeds as low as 7.3 knots, which is quite impressive for a power catamaran and sure to make 'bad weather' trips home much more comfortable.

Warren wrapped up his report on the Powercat 2400 Sports Cab by saying if you haven't experienced the performance and handling of a power catamaran, do yourself a favour and have a close look at Powercat's latest 2400 Series. You'll be blown away.

With a price tag of \$115,000, for a standard of fit-out and finish that will leave many of its competitors floundering, the 2400 Sports Cab is a worthy recipient of our *Family Boat of the Year* award.

This year's winner of the *Family Boat of the Year* goes to the Powercat 2400 Sports Cab.

It's a boat that doubles as a top family cruiser (with all the lounges and cooking facilities you need), or an excellent, stable, offshore fishing platform.

This was another Warren Steptoe test and it appeared in the October/November 2005 edition. Warren wrapped up this test by saying it's misleading to refer to Powercat's new 24-footer as a 'small' boat. Yes, the 2400 is the baby sister of larger Powercats

► SPECIFICATIONS

LOA:..... 7.4m
HULL LENGTH:..... 7.15m
BEAM: 2.5m
WEIGHT:..... 2000kg
TRAILERING WEIGHT:..... 2800kg
RATED HP: 80-140hp
PROPS: 17" Pitch
CONTACT:..... (07) 5428 0043

► FINALISTS

Haines Hunter Horizon 650
Malibu Wakesetter VLX
Sea Spirit 2600
Haines Signature 500BR
Freedom Cruise

FAMILY BOAT OF THE YEAR POWERCAT 2400 SPORTS CAB

