



A strikingly futuristic looking craft, Hart Marine's latest pilot boat is now proudly owned and operated by the Port Authority of New South Wales – Port Kembla



The collaboration between the hi-tech yacht builder Hart Marine and French naval architect, Pantocarene, has been a fruitful one. It has certainly turned the Australian pilot boat market upside down.

With the builder maintaining a close working relationship with Victoria's Port Phillip Sea Pilots, Managing Director, Mal Hart, said the rough waters of Bass Strait proved the ideal testing ground for its pilot boat concepts, allowing for tweaks and refinements in latter vessels for other Australian ports, including 'Kestrel'.

The vessel's hi-tech features are numerous. During operation, an innovative trim tab system drops the iconic beak bow, adjusting longitudinal trim and decreasing drag and increasing speed. These tabs are then lifted down weather, letting the bow rise and meet large following seas.

Built using Hart Marine's epoxy-infused laminated construction technique, Mal Hart predicts 'Kestrel' to have a whole-of-life of

more than 35 years. Careful attention was also paid to pilot fatigue and crew alertness during pilotage transfers. Thus, 'Kestrel' has a resiliently mounted wheelhouse and very low noise and vibration levels.

With eight of these not-inexpensive vessels delivered already, Hart Marine now dominates the local pilot boat market. 'Kestrel', which operates out of Port Kembla, was an easy choice for Best Pilot Boat. Recently ISO 9001 certified by Lloyd's Register and a diehard supporter of Australia's local boat building and supplier industry, Hart Marine is hitting all the right notes.

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The Hart Marine built ORC Pilot Boat



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As used by:

Port Phillip Sea Pilots

Geraldton Port Authority

Rio Tinto

Esperance Port Authority

Port Authority of New South Wales - Port Kembla

