

BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE NEW FULLERS FERRY BUILD

# She's taking shape...



IN MAY 2013 Fullers awarded the contract to build it's new Waiheke Island ferry to a Whanganui-based boat yard, Q-West. The project, costing around \$7 million, is on track with an expected launch date of July this year.

The decision for Q-West to build the new Waiheke ferry was an easy one for Fullers CEO Douglas Hudson. "Q-West has a solid reputation for building aluminium boats, from fishing and charter vessels to high-speed ferries. We were also determined the work would stay within the New Zealand economy," says Hudson. "A bonus too, is the yard's proximity to Auckland. We're in the same time-zone, just a short flight away and every Friday we receive progress photos. Seeing the boat take shape each week has caused a buzz around the staff, especially now it's actually beginning to look like a ferry!"





Australian marine concept and development company Incat Crowther worked with Fullers to develop the new ferry so it was adaptable to working within the inner harbour and to the outer islands of the Hauraki Gulf.

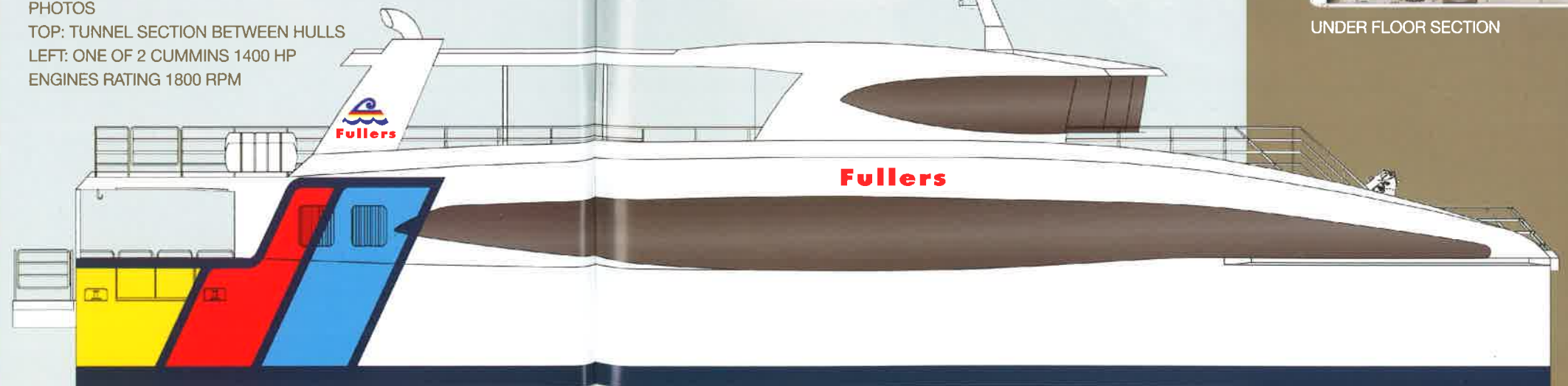
The vessel will be powered by twin Cummins diesel marine engines and have a cruising speed of 26 knots. The 338 passengers will be accommodated on two levels, with 212 seated in the main cabin and 44 in the cabin on the upper deck with a further 82 seated under the top deck awning.



A feature of the ferry will be extra large doors to help speed up passengers boarding time and discharge on arrival.

Large side gates on both decks, as well as articulated ramps mounted at the stern of the vessel are designed to ensure faster turnaround times. A Palfinger crane is being fitted on the foredeck with a hold for cargo storage. This is specifically for the Waiheke market, delivering to the island all manner of goods including daily newspapers, fresh produce and speciality foods for local eateries.

PHOTOS  
TOP: TUNNEL SECTION BETWEEN HULLS  
LEFT: ONE OF 2 CUMMINS 1400 HP  
ENGINES RATING 1800 RPM



ABOVE: AFT VIEW

"On the main aft deck we will be making provision for bicycles," says Hudson, "ensuring as part of our service, commuters or tourists, have the ability to ride to and from the ferry."

Whilst the vessel is being built specifically for the Waiheke service, with it's cargo capacity, it also has the ability to berth at Devonport and be utilised on the Half Moon Bay service.

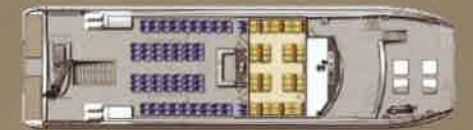
The new ferry will replace the MV Jet Raider, a monohull vessel built in 1990.



Q-WEST GENERAL MANAGER COLIN MITCHELL AND FULLERS PROJECT MANAGER



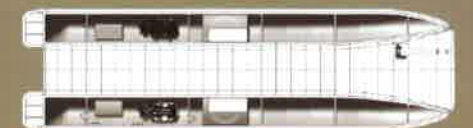
FULLERS CEO, DOUGLAS HUDSON, REVIEWS A SAMPLE OF THE SEATING.



UPPER LEVEL



MAIN CABIN



UNDER FLOOR SECTION