

Hamilton Jet Model 362
 Application Review

Fast Dolphin Watch Catamaran Uses Twin 362 Jets



New Zealand eco-tourism company Dolphin Discoveries (1996) Ltd. have launched a new jet powered catamaran vessel. Based in the Bay of Islands, "Discovery IV" is a 17.7 metre Teknicraft design, powered by twin Hamilton Jet Model 362 jets directly driven by Caterpillar 3406E diesel engines.

With seating for 74 passengers on the main deck, the vessel is capable of maintaining 32 knots in fully laden condition. During sea-trials in lightship condition, speeds over 40 knots were obtained.

Using the integrated Hamilton Jet HSRC propulsion control system, manoeuvrability is outstanding. The vessel can turn in any direction around a single pivot point and can be "walked" sideways without any difficulty. The vessel can be positioned and held close to mammals in the water even in strong winds or currents.

Considerable attention has been paid to passenger comfort in the design and construction of "Discovery IV" and this is enhanced by the fact that the waterjets are direct driven, eliminating vibrations normally associated with a gearbox shift.

Discovery IV is one of many Hamilton Jet powered whale/dolphin watch vessels around the world. With no exposed rotating components underwater, waterjets minimise the risk of harming mammals or swimmers in the water during such excursions.

▶ Brief Specifications

NAME: M/V Discovery IV	WATERJET CONTROLS: Hamilton Jet HSRC
SERVICE: Dolphin Watching	ENGINES: Twin Caterpillar diesels, Model 3406E, each 515kW (690hp) @ 2200rpm
LENGTH: 17.7 metres [LOA]	DESIGNER: Teknicraft Design Ltd. Auckland, New Zealand
BEAM: 6.4 metres	BUILDER: Q-West Boat Builders, Auckland, New Zealand
CONSTRUCTION: Aluminium	OPERATOR: Dolphin Discoveries Ltd. Bay of Islands, New Zealand
DISPLACEMENT: 27.2 tonnes (laden)	Hamilton Jet DISTRIBUTOR: Hamilton Marine, Christchurch, New Zealand
PAYLOAD: 74 pax + 2 crew	
SPEED: 38+ knots (maximum) 32 knots (laden)	
WATERJETS: Twin Hamilton Jet Model 362	

