



Flexidrive® **A semi-submerged propulsion system for all types of boats**

A new concept of semi-submerged propulsion system composed by three typologies. The target of Flexitab engineers, in the field of pleasure craft, is aimed to improve the safety and the efficiency of the navigation, with all kind of boats

Flexidrive® is an innovative propulsion system composed by a "body", made of composite material: all the hydraulic components are enclosed inside and all the mechanical parts are connected to. Flexidrive® is based on semi-submerged propellers concept, created and developed to increase the performances of the boat and its manouvability; to help the installation and to enhance the efficiency.

The research program called Flexidrive® is built up from the cooperation among Flexitab, Victory Design and the University of Genoa and Naples.

Developed specifically for pleasure craft, Flexidrive® has been tested on the Dart, a 46' mono-hull totally designed by Victory Design. This boat, with two 600-horsepower diesel engines, reached a maximum speed around 10 knots more than any other boat of equal displacement propelled by immersed propellers and a minimum planing speed of 12 knots. Flexidrive® assured also an incredible manouvability in port, same as traditional propulsion systems.

Flexidrive® has been designed using the Finite Element Method (FEM) which allows for optimization of structures in terms of maximum resistance and minimum weight. The Flexidrive® body is made of composite materials; the propeller axis case is made of light aluminium alloy with anti-corrosional surface treatment.

Flexidrive® has a complete range of products: Energy, Power e Speed.

Flexidrive® Energy – for working boats, super yachts and high-displacement fisherman. This family has fixed drive and is designed to reach the maximum performance at medium-low speed usual for this kind of boats. It is available in 6 models, with an indicative power range from 300hp to 2800hp.

Flexidrive® Power – for planing pleasure and high-speed working boats, such as contemporary open and fast guard-ship.

This family has a trimmable drive to improve the performance of the hull and to reach the best result during all kind of navigation. Flexitab engineers worked to obtain the maximum manouvability, quick planing and tacking. It is available in 5 models, with an indicative power range from 500hp to 2800hp.

The Metaphor 68', the new open yacht of the Turkish boatyard Alen Yacht, designed by Victory Design, is equipped with Flexidrive Power 2000.



Flexidrive® Speed – created for light displacement and very fast boats (like, for example, the offshore and the *fast-commuter*), single and multi-hull. As per Power models, also Speed family has trimmable drive and the external steering system is made of light aluminium alloy with a special high-tensile stainless steel rudder. It is available in 2 models, with an indicative power range from 500hp to 1500hp.

Power and Speed models have the trimmable drive. In this way the driver has always the control of the boat, correcting the trim during the navigation in every sea state. The advantages are many: better cruising comfort, less fuel consumption and better performances.

As all the Flexitab components, also the Flexidrive® has been designed to facilitate the shipyard work: the installation is fast and easy and doesn't require any compromise for the hull design.

For information: Flexitab srl, Via Nuova Marina 20, 80133 Naples, tel. + 39 081 7901909
fax + 39 081 4206903 - www.flexitab.com - flexitab@flexitab.com

Press office: Saturno e Associati Giornalisti, Viale Piave 21, 20129 Milan, tel. + 39-02 76016201 –
mobile: 3401686130 - e-mail: press@saturnoeassociati.com