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MEDIA

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## “NICE, NICE!”

During sea trials it's essential to get the skipper's thoughts and feelings, but with Captain Anthony at the helm of the new Sunreef 40 Open Power, we could only get one word out of him...

BY STEVE CHALMERS

But catamarans can't do fast? With the right engine combo, the 40 Open can top-out at 60 knots and all without breaking a sweat. Catamarans are pretty good when it comes to speed; the Miss GEICO offshore powerboat can handle 4000hp, which pushes it past 210mph.



SUNREEF 40 OPEN

SUNREEF 40 OPEN SPECIFICATIONS

LOA:.....13.1 m / 43 Ft  
 Max beam:.....5.2 m / 17.1 Ft  
 Draught:.....0.7 m / 2.3 Ft  
 Construction:.....Composite  
 Engines:.....2 x 435 HP - 2 x 860 HP  
 Cruising speed:.....up to 35 knots  
 Max speed:.....up to 60 knots  
 Category:.....B and C  
 Naval architecture:.....Sunreef Yachts  
 Design:.....Sunreef Yachts



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“Nice!” Said Captain Anthony as he maneuvers the Sunreef Open 40 Power away from our berth outside The Address Dubai Marina. With a big smile on his face, he admits that not only is this his first time at the helm of a catamaran but also his first go with Volvo’s IPS 600. With the Polish shipyard choosing the Dubai International Boat Show to premier its 40 Open, we

had the luxury of sea trialing her immediately after the event, with Sunreef’s Karolina Paszkiewicz joining us to answer our questions.

Joining Captain Anthony at the helm, Karolina and myself perch ourselves either side of him in the rather awesome Ullman Echelon SportBack seats. These legendary Shock Mitigation perches are used by the Special Forces around the world and are designed for only the highest performing craft, but even as we idle out of Dubai Marina at 3.5 knots, sitting on such quality seating is both reassuring and exciting.

Under the T-top we’re completely shaded by the sun, with the relatively small windshield providing more protection than its compact size hints. Properly settled in to our Ullmans, Captain Anthony pushes the throttles forward. At idle, the Volvo Penta turbo diesels are reasonably loud, which is fine, as we’re on a fast dayboat, but as the revs climb, the engine note actually improves and a quick glance at the screens has us at 21-knots at 2500rpm.

The Arabian Gulf is not particularly flat today, but the 40 feels solidly planted and totally unshakable. “Nice!” says Captain Anthony, as he points the catamaran towards the wake of one of the many charter ▶



BOATS AHEAD



► boats heading towards the Atlantis. Hitting the churned up water at full throttle and... nothing – the 40 just cuts through it without a fuss: flat, comfortable and safe. We're starting to believe the Ullmans are a bit excessive now, as at an indicated 33-knots and climbing, the only giveaway that we're moving quickly over the water is the buffeting of the wind coming over the windscreen.

Flat out at 3500rpm and the big inline 6-cylinder engines are spinning along quite happily in their comfort zone - but we have to admit, we'd like to try the 40 with the larger IPS 800, as the 600s aren't really making the most of the hulls' potential.

Coming to a stop out in the Gulf, Captain Anthony has a play with the IPS' joystick control while we check out the 40's deck. Size wise, the Open is best described as a floating superyacht beach club, as there's room for six sun worshippers on the aft sunpads (which share their seat-backs with the dining area's L-shaped sofa) and it gets even bigger. At the touch of a button, the bulwarks lower to sea level, extending the beam to a colossal ►



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Cat got the cream: Sunreef 40 Open owners will feel overly-pleased with themselves knowing they have the widest 43-foot dayboat on the water.

## BOATS ARABIA



## SUNREEF 40 OPEN



► 5.2-meters while allowing guests to enjoy the superyacht style platforms.

Forward is another entertainment area, with a C-shaped sofa and a double bench seat surrounding two tables. Bimini tops can be utilised if the Middle Eastern sun gets too much, and it's also possible to chill out inside the starboard hull which can be used as a cabin, with the port side hull housing the head and sit-down shower. Tech wise, a meaty Rockford Fosgate sounds system provides the party tunes while SIMRAD looks after the skipper's needs.

As we head back at the Open's 25-knot cruise speed, we relax at the aft port side table and just enjoy the experience. With the mild winter sun not causing too much in the way of discomfort, it's a relaxed cruise and looking around, it's hard to believe the Sunreef's only 43-feet long. It feels huge, it looks great and is about as safe as you can be on the water - all factors that will make it a popular purchase here in the Middle East. Such is the Polish shipyard's respect for the region, it has announced it will be setting up a shipyard in Dubai to build the 40 Open Power - more details on this in June/July's issue. 📌