

Location: Maldives

Service: Workboat

Waterjet Model: HJ274



NAME:

Maybelle Too

SERVICE:

Workboat

LENGTH:

12.80 metres

BEAM:

3.70 metres

CONSTRUCTION:

Aluminium

SPEED:

28 knots

WATERJETS:

Twin HamiltonJet Model HJ274

ENGINES:

Twin Yanmar diesel engines
Model 4LHA, each
172bkW (230bhp) @ 3300rpm

GEARBOXES:

Newage PRM 750 1.5:1

DESIGNER:

Specialty Marine Inc,
Scappoose, OR, USA

BUILDER:

Aliboats, Maun, Botswana

OPERATOR:

British Red Cross, Maldives

HamiltonJet DISTRIBUTOR:

HamiltonJet UK Ltd,
East Grinstead, UK

Global Team Brings HamiltonJet-Powered Workboat to Fruition

When the British Red Cross commissioned a landing craft for Tsunami relief work in the Maldives, they had no idea the project would involve multiple companies in three continents. The result is a high quality workboat, powered by twin HamiltonJet HJ274 waterjets, that would prove its worth anywhere in the world.

The "Maybelle Too" project was managed by Working Boats in the UK, who worked with designers Specialty Marine in Oregon, USA, to develop a landing craft suitable for the British Red Cross's operations in the Maldivian islands. Aliboat's yard in Botswana (southern Africa) was contracted to build the boat – a decision that reduced both time and costs.

Waterjets are the ideal propulsion option for landing craft, where their shallow draught capability allows for easy and safe beaching to load and unload cargo. This advantage is even more apparent in the Maldives with its many reefs and shallow waterways between islands. The pair of HJ274 waterjets for Maybelle Too were supplied by HamiltonJet's UK office, who had the jets available for immediate delivery to Africa and worked directly with the boat yard to ensure they were installed and commissioned correctly.

Once built, Maybelle Too was trucked to Namibia for sea trials and commissioning, before being loaded onto a ship and transported to India. The boat was then driven the last leg to the Maldives – a trip of some 740km of open ocean.

During its first year of operation Maybelle Too has performed exceptionally well for the British Red Cross. The boat has proven to be highly manoeuvrable and reliable, and with its large foredeck and bow ramp is capable of carrying and loading/unloading large loads of supplies and equipment with ease.



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