

THE SNAPSHOT

The Monthly Newsletter of Project Torpedalo

“Only by setting distant and difficult goals do we truly succeed.”

PROJECT TORPEDALO

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www.torpedalo.com



THE BOAT IS BORN!

Friday 16th September is officially the birth date of the Torpedalo! Three weeks ago, Norco GRP demoulded the deck and hull from their moulds, before joining the two halves of the boat together and affixing the transom cone to form our boat. Painted white, with hatches and dummy windows fitted in place, the boat was ready for its first public appearance - more about that on page three. Mark had a frantic week building the boat trailer with the incredible team at Hancox Equestrian, before he and Mike spent a

very long day finishing the trailer, travelling to Norco to collect the boat and taking it the NEC for two back-to-back shows. There are more photos of the last stages of the build on the next page, and loads more online - check out the project website, Flickr or Facebook for the galleries by clicking the links above! The boat has since been returned to Norco for the final paint, CopperCoat application and fit-out with external fixtures, the final windows and some small interior mouldings. Very exciting times ahead!



MORE PHOTOS FROM THE FINAL STAGES OF THE BOAT BUILD



Clockwise, from left: Daniel and Jack survey their handiwork after the top deck is demoulded; Henry and Daniel show how light the top deck structure is; The hull is demoulded, showing perfect surface finish thanks to Norco's skill and the quality of the MonsterCAM tool; The top deck is lowered on to the hull to complete the boat; Looking resplendent before final bonding; Mike fillets the transom cone.



NorcoGRP

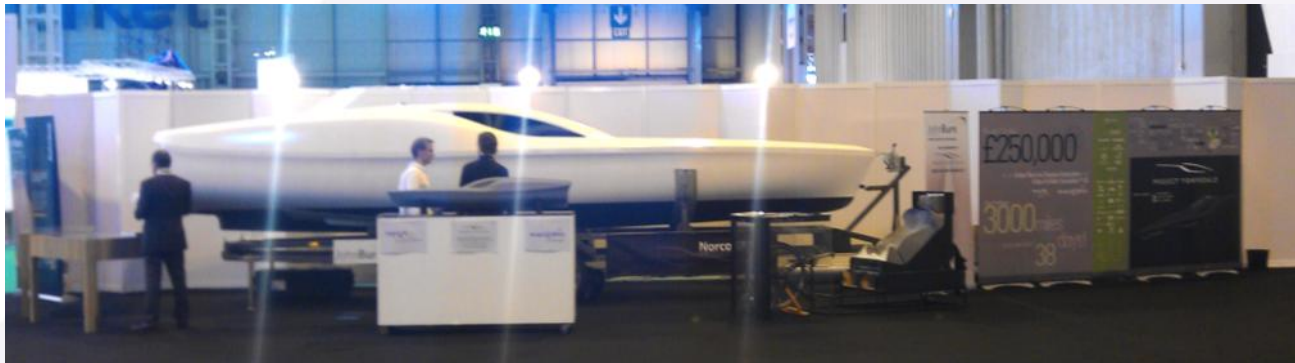


Live Events Update

Boat on Display for the First Time

Last week saw Torpedalo attend two back-to-back shows at the NEC in Birmingham, including (for the first time) the boat itself. The two events were very different, but both very enjoyable!

First up was TCT Live, a manufacturing and rapid prototyping show in Hall 3a. We'd been asked to exhibit together with the Bloodhound SSC project by the show organisers, and we spent two days in the entrance area to the show displaying the project and answering questions. Those readers who have followed Torpedalo from the early days will know that we met our hero Richard Noble, leader of Bloodhound SSC, in Bristol last year when we'd done our first round of towing tank tests. Richard was in attendance at the show, and was hugely impressed with how far we've come - especially the fact that it's all been done without spending any money! Gold sponsors John Burn Ltd and Curvature Group were also exhibiting at the show, which resulted in some fantastic cross-promotion.



After the show closed on Wednesday night, we moved the boat and our stand materials over to Hall 9 for Cycle Show, the biggest cycling exhibition in the country. With model boats arranged, pedalling rig set up, banners unfurled, kit on display and the Torpedalo itself looking stunning we welcomed thousands of visitors to the stand over four days, including professional cyclists Geraint Thomas and Ben Swift, solo ocean rower James Ketchell and round-the-world cyclist Mark Beaumont. Guests of all ages were fascinated by the project, with many staying for over 20 minutes to hear all about our challenge. Mike gave three presentations in the main show arena over the course of the show, the last one to an audience of over 500 people. Pictures and video from the show are online on the project website, Facebook and YouTube. Our thanks go to Sarah, Emma, Andrew and the rest of the Cycle Show team for all of their help!



With the recently announced delay in our crossing attempt, we're now planning shows and exhibitions for next year. This has already started, and all will involve the boat and hopefully some on-water action!

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Sponsor Update

Pentaxia and Aquapac

Another two sponsors on board this month - one which helped us deliver the boat on time at a critical point and another which is providing some small but absolutely essential kit...



PENTAXIA

Pentaxia is a company specialising in the production of complex models, moulds and patterns for the aerospace and motorsports industries. We got in touch with MD Stephen Ollier a few weeks ago, in urgent need of help. Before the two halves of the boat were joined, we needed to make and fit a large interior moulding, that fits around the drive leg, sealing it and creating a storage area. Being used to Formula 1 time scales, Pentaxia knew they could deliver the mould we needed for the part in a matter of days, so agreed to help! John Burn Ltd once again supplied Sika tooling board, and Mark sent CAD data directly to Pentaxia. Less than three days after the data arrived, the tool was ready for collection - now that's quick service! Norco reflected the pace of the tool manufacture by having the mould prepped, carbon layed-up, moulding cured and the part released within two days of delivery. We're extremely grateful to Stephen, Adam and the team at Pentaxia for working so hard and so fast at a crucial time - their work played a huge part in having the boat ready for the two NEC shows.



aquapac

Aquapac produce a range of protective cases designed to house all manner of portable electronics, plus an ever-expanding range of multi-purpose waterproof bags and pouches too. Their products are all either stormproof or fully submersible to IPX8 standard. Their products are used by emergency services and lifeguards around the world, as well as by some of the biggest names in the electronics industry. Aquapac cases are used by some of our adventurer friends - Roz Savage, Sarah Outen and Dave Cornthwaite to name a few - and with the knowledge that these guys have used Aquapac to protect their kit all over the world, we knew they were the best. Given that Aquapac receive many thousands of sponsorship requests a year, we're privileged and fortunate that Tim Turnbull, Aquapac's CEO, has agreed to supply us with the protective cases and pouches we need for our delicate electronics, plus waterproof earphones so we can enjoy our iPods while out on the ocean! With Aquapac's help, our iPods, satellite phone, camera equipment, backup radio and GPS will all be completely protected from the elements.



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Support Us

Please make a donation!

First and foremost, Project Torpedalo is fundraising project for two amazing charities - the Motor Neurone Disease Association and Make-A-Wish Foundation® UK. Please help us raise as much money as possible by clicking on the button to the right and donating. The donation system is provided by Barclaycard and is 100% secure, so you can give with confidence. Thanks to our amazing corporate sponsors, every single penny donated by the public will go to our charities. Please help!



Contact Us

We'd love to hear from you

If you'd like to know more about the project, think you might be able to help or know someone that can, please do get in touch!

Mike Sayer: mike@torpedalo.com
07828 918221

Mark Byass: mark@torpedalo.com
07738 423304



PROJECT TORPEDALO

THE PEDAL-POWERED TRANS-ATLANTIC CHARITY CHALLENGE

Fundraising in aid of:



Our thanks go to everyone who has supported the project so far. We couldn't be doing it without you!

Norco GRP
CBB

