



This year's 100-mph roundup was almost equally represented with cats and Vs. As usual, the cats were amazing with special acknowledgement to the great handling new Spectre 32 CS, the always incredible DCB 29 with Ilmor 625s, and the beautiful Eliminator 33 Daytona.

This year, I was especially impressed with the improvements among the V-bottom fleet. The new Fountain 42 Lightning bottom works perfectly with big power, even at 128 mph. The Outerlimits 39 GTX with just two 625-hp Ilmor ran 109 mph and handled the big water masterfully. The best handling single engine V-bottom this year was the Howard 28 Bullet with massive power, which took an awesome set above 110 mph. I like cats, but this year the recognition goes to the most improved V. Do I have to pick? Single engine: unquestionably the Howard. Between the GTX and the Lightning, it's a matter of what turns you on. They both hit the mark in their own worlds.—BT



OK, because all boats represent a compromise of one form or another, it would be difficult to choose one, so I'll break it down to a few categories: sport boat, V-bottom and catamaran. Since we tested only one sport boat in this roundup, the Howard 28 Bullet is an easy choice—because it is so choice. Even if this roundup were all sport boats, I'd probably still take the Howard. You have to drive it to believe how good it is. If I were looking for a big offshore V-bottom, I'd take the Outerlimits 39 GTX. With reliable Ilmor V-10 power, a nice cabin and 100-plus-mph top speed, that choice is easy. For cats, the field widens and the choice becomes more difficult, but Spectre's new 32 CS was my favorite. It went 110 mph on a pair of HP500EFIs. Its paint catches the eye, yet shows tasteful restraint and the boat had great lines, and styling cues. Priced at \$275k, it may be the bargain of the bunch, and if I had to choose only one, the 32 Spectre would be it.—BB



The West Coast players brought serious game to this year's 100-mph Roundup. Dave's Custom Boats delivered a pristine Mach F-29 catamaran with a delightful power wrinkle—a pair of 625-hp Ilmor V-10 engines. Eliminator delivered a 33 Daytona with a paint job that could match anything we've seen from the Midwest and East Coast paint shops. And B&H, a newcomer to the 100-mph club, proved with its generously equipped C310 that a sport cat can be comfortable and plenty fast.

But a V-bottom, Howard's 28 Bullet, stole the show. For this test, Howard went with a custom 1,110-hp engine under the hatch. At 110-plus-mph, the ride was steady, reassuring and comfortable. Do I have a soft spot for the 28 Bullet? Yes. Does it deserve to be there? Absolutely.—MT



B&H Performance Water Rod C310

Centerline	30'9"
Beam	8'6"
Hull weight	9,000 pounds
Price as tested	\$297,580
Engine	(2) Teague Custom Marine 800 EFI

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	509/800
Propeller	Hydromotive five-blade 15 1/2" x 30"
Zero to 20 seconds	103 mph
Top speed at rpm	112.7 mph at 5800
Contact	909-864-7722, www.waterrod.com



Cigarette Racing 45 Maximus

Centerline	45'7"
Beam	8'
Hull weight	11,800 pounds
Price as tested	\$842,473
Engine	(2) Mercury Racing HP1075SCi

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	557/1075
Propeller	Mercury five-blade 17" x 32"
Zero to 20 seconds	88.4 mph
Top speed at rpm	121.3 mph at 6000
Contact	305-931-4564, www.cigaretteracing.com



Dave's Custom Mach F-29

Centerline	29'
Beam	8'10"
Hull weight	8,000 pounds
Price as tested	\$314,340
Engine	(2) Ilmor 625

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	505/625
Propeller	Hering six-blade 15" x 32"
Zero to 20 seconds	77 mph
Top speed at rpm	128 mph at 5800
Contact	619-442-0300, www.dcbcracing.com



Donzi 38 ZR

Centerline	38'1"
Beam	8'2"
Hull weight	8,700 pounds
Price as tested	\$750,071
Engine	(2) Mercury Racing HP1075SCi

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	557/1075
Propeller	Mercury cleaver 16" x 35"
Zero to 20 seconds	75 mph
Top speed at rpm	124 mph at 6000
Contact	800-624-3304, www.donzimarine.com



Eliminator 33 Daytona

Centerline	33'3"
Beam	9'
Hull weight	6,500 pounds
Price as tested	\$465,000
Engine	(2) Teague Custom Marine 900 EFI

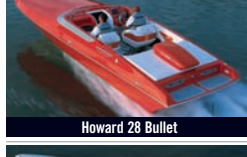
Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	540/900
Propeller	Mercury Bravo One 15 1/4" x 37"
Zero to 20 seconds	NA
Top speed at rpm	142.2 mph at 5700
Contact	951-681-1222, www.eliminatorboat.com



Fountain 42 Lightning

Centerline	42'
Beam	8'6"
Hull weight	10,300 pounds
Price as tested	\$662,546
Engine	(2) Sterling 1100

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	557/1100
Propeller	Hering five-blade 16 3/4" x 35"
Zero to 20 seconds	79 mph
Top speed at rpm	127.1 mph at 5900
Contact	252-975-2000, www.fountainpowerboats.com



Howard 28 Bullet

Centerline	28'
Beam	8'4"
Hull weight	4,400 pounds
Price as tested	\$180,000
Engine	Taylor Performance 1100 SC EFI

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	555/1105
Propeller	Mercury Bravo One 15 1/4" x 31"
Zero to 20 seconds	97 mph
Top speed at rpm	110.1 mph at 6100
Contact	661-257-9275, www.howardboats.com



Kachina 34 Drone

Centerline	34'
Beam	8'2"
Hull weight	7,500 pounds
Price as tested	\$213,220
Engine	(2) GT Performance 985

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	540/985
Propeller	Mercury Bravo One 15 1/4" x 36"
Zero to 20 seconds	NA
Top speed at rpm	110.3 mph at 5900
Contact	602-244-1450, www.kachinaboats.com



Outerlimits 39 GTX

Centerline	39'11"
Beam	9'2"
Hull weight	8,000 pounds
Price as tested	\$599,000
Engine	(2) Ilmor 625

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	505/625
Propeller	Mercury Bravo One 15 1/4" x 33"
Zero to 20 seconds	84.2 mph
Top speed at rpm	109 mph at 6000
Contact	401-253-7300, www.outerlimitspowerboats.com



Skater 368 Flat Deck

Centerline	36'
Beam	10'8"
Hull weight	8,900 pounds
Price as tested	\$533,999
Engine	(2) Baker Engineering 1200/1400

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	557/1400
Propeller	Mercury cleaver 16" x 35"
Zero to 20 seconds	115 mph
Top speed at rpm	134 mph at 5500
Contact	269-857-1559, www.skaterpowerboats.com



Spectre 32 CS

Centerline	32'
Beam	9'
Hull weight	NA
Price as tested	\$275,520
Engine	(2) Mercury Racing HP500EFI

Cubic-inch displacement/horsepower	502/470
Propeller	Lab-finished Mercury Bravo One 15 1/4" x 35"
Zero to 20 seconds	80 mph
Top speed at rpm	110.2 mph at 5100
Contact	727-546-3000, www.spectrepowerboats.com