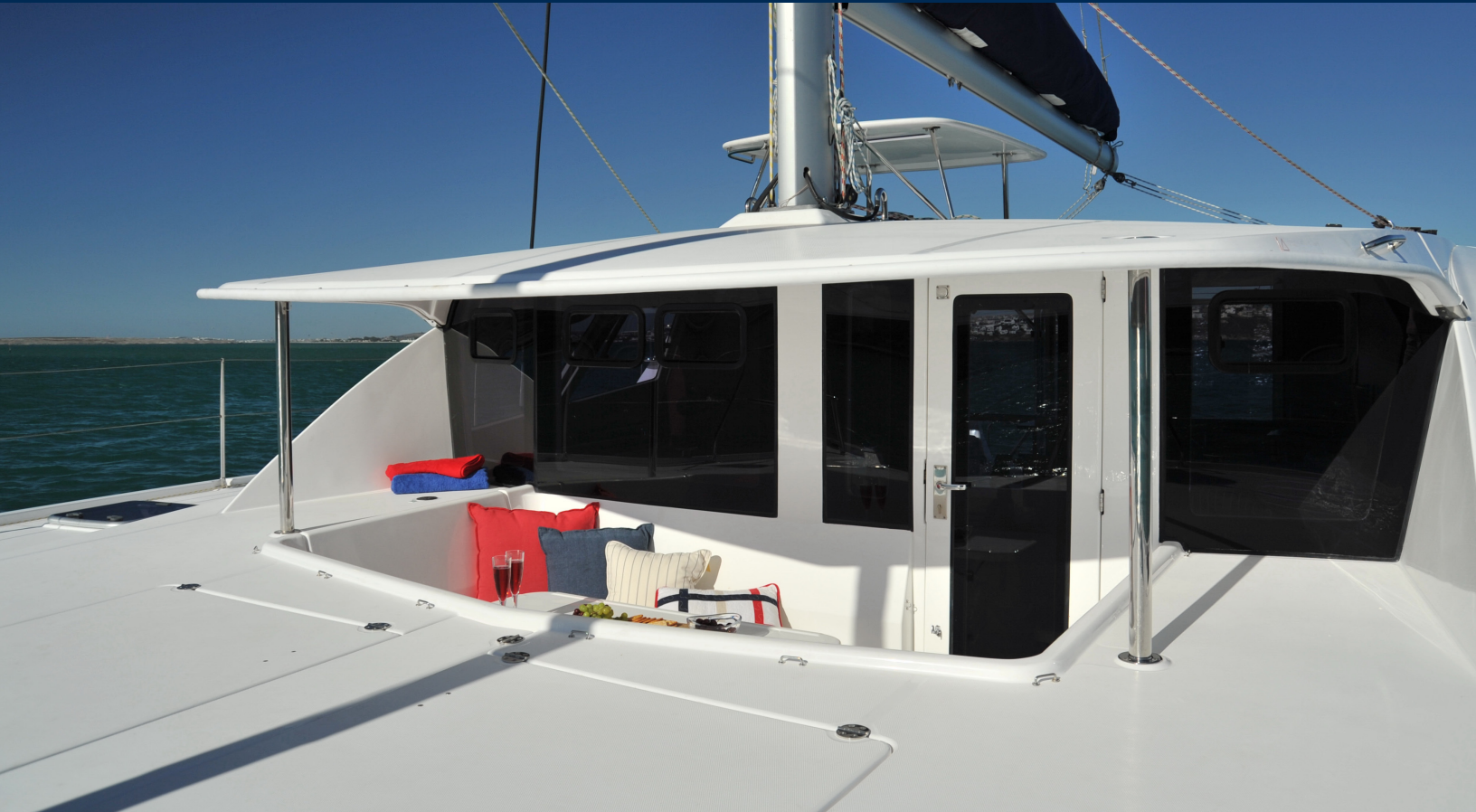


LE PARD **44** FORWARD COCKPIT



LE^{PAW}ARD⁴⁴ FORWARD COCKPIT

Leopard 44 - Forward Cockpit

With any new innovation there is always a facet of explaining the concept and breaking down preconceived myths and ideas that have deflected others from taking similar concepts to market. In the case of the Leopard 44, only part of this is true as the forward cockpit is not a new concept, having previously been used by Gun Boat, Chris White and even Lagoon. The real innovation for Leopard Catamarans is that the forward cockpit is accessible from the saloon, free of all gear, and is being implemented on a production catamaran. Being in production for over 18 months now, and having Leopard 44's sailing around the world, it is clear that not only was the concept sound, but the application, function, and safety of the yacht is a true success.



LE^{PAW} PARD⁴⁴ FORWARD COCKPIT



Certification

The first opportunity Leopard had to gain support for this new design feature was when manufacturer Robertson and Caine applied for certification of the Leopard 44 by the North American and European agencies. Upon detailed inspection of the design, and the build practices employed in producing the Leopard 44, both the International Marine Certification Institute (IMCI) and the National Marine Manufacturers Association confirmed she was built to the high standards set forth by International Standards Organization (ISO) and the American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC). Understanding that the yachts were now rated and certified for offshore passage making, it was time to bring this new catamaran with the forward cockpit to our customers.

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Awards

From the launch of the Leopard 44, the response from our clients, the press, other designers, and the yachting professionals has been almost unanimously positive. This was clearly visible in the Leopard 44 being awarded Sail Magazines “Best Boat of the Year” in the multihull category as well as Cruising World’s “Import of the Year” and “Multihull of the Year”. These awards were given to the Leopard 44 after a comprehensive inspection and test sails of the yacht, by judges that consisted of some of the industry’s most respected experts. With these honors now associated with the Leopard 44 it was clear that the forward cockpit, while innovative and challenging to the concepts of modern production catamarans, was a design advancement now embraced by North America’s most prestigious sailing publications.



Certifications and the backing of sailing experts was further affirmation that this new concept was here to stay, but at the same time there remained questions about this design feature and its application offshore. From the earliest stages of the Leopard 44’s design process it was intended be used for long distance cruising as well as in the Sunsail charter fleet, two purposes that are not mutually exclusive.

LE^{PAW}ARD⁴⁴ FORWARD COCKPIT

Safety

A great deal of detail and attention has been employed by the designers that may not be clear upon first viewing. From the wedge shaped forward edge of the wing bridge that sheds blue water onto the weather decks, the raised deck around the forward cockpit keeping the forward cockpit as dry as possible, down to the two oversized drainage holes in the bottom of the forward cockpit that can drain the full cockpit in less than 45 seconds, the Leopard 44 is not only an exhilarating yacht to sail, more importantly, it is safe.

Quick Draining Cockpit:

Design Category: A

Boat Data:

Length of Hull (Lh) = 13m
 Beam Maximum (Bmax) = 7.2m
 Freeboard Amidships (Fm) = 1.6m
 Cockpit Retention Height (hc) = 1.2m
 Cockpit Volume (Vc) = 2.78m³
 Actual Drain Area for one of two drains (D) = 0.013m²
 Equivalent Diameter for each drain (d) = 129mm

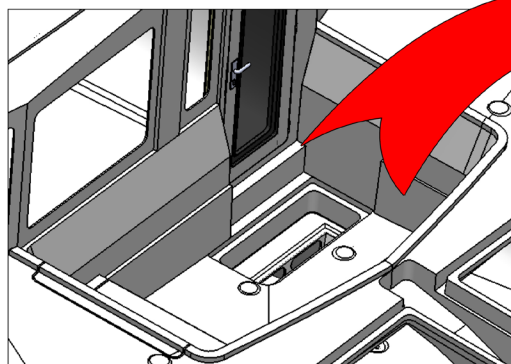
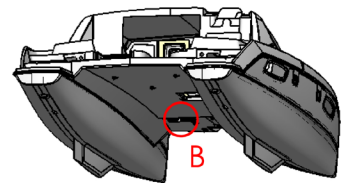
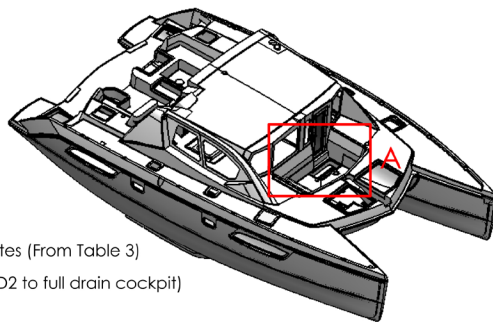
Calculated Data:

Cockpit Volume Coefficient (kc) = 0.2 (From Section 3.28)
 Calculated maximum allowable drainage time (tmax) = 16.16 minutes (From Table 3)
 but limited to 5 minutes (from table 3)
 Calculated time to drain cockpit (t) = 0.73 minutes (using Equation D2 to full drain cockpit)

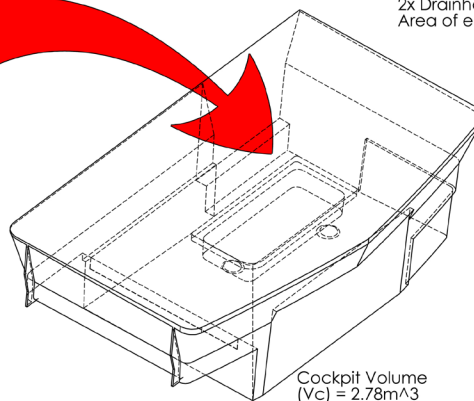
Other Requirements:

Cockpit bottom height above WL (Hb) = 0.64m
 Minimum height allowable (Hbmin) = 0.15m (from Table 2)

Actual sill height (hs) = 0.4m
 Minimum sill height (hsmin) = 0.2m (from Table 5)

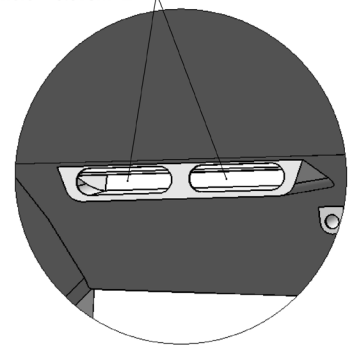


DETAIL A
SCALE 1 : 20



Cockpit Volume
(Vc) = 2.78m³

2x Drainholes on Bridgedeck.
Area of each hole = 0.013m²



DETAIL B
SCALE 1 : 10

LE^{PAW}ARD⁴⁴ FORWARD COCKPIT

Cover

Leopard did not stop there and rest upon the multitude of safety features already designed into the forward cockpit. To add further offshore protective gear, the design team developed a conical cover that can be deployed over this entire area that further reduces any blue water that may find its way into the forward cockpit while offshore. To the point, the Leopard 44 is an offshore capable yacht that will take you around the world safely.

