

QUIET AN ENTRANCE

The innovative solar-powered Silent 55 made a quiet entrance into the yacht market at the Cannes Yachting Festival 2018.

he Silent 55 is the latest solar model from SILENT-YACHTS, who claim to produce the only oceangoing and commercially available solar-electric catamaran yachts in the world. In doing so, they promise noiseless cruising, no fumes or emissions, minimal maintenance and an unlimited range.

The 55 gathers solar energy through 30 solar panels that equate to around a 10kW peak system for propulsion and household use. It also utilises maximum power point tracking (MPPT) solar charge regulators and 48V lithium batteries for all-night cruising, while a 15kVA inverter provides power for all household appliances.

"What this represents to the yachtsman, among other features, is the ability to cruise for many hours at normal speed, and throughout the entire day and evening at reduced speed," said SILENT-YACHTS CEO, Michael Köhler.

Five power configurations deliver multiple options to suit different cruising applications. The Cruiser version features twin 30kW motors, the E-Power has two 250kW motors, while the Hybrid Power option features two 220hp diesel engines and two 14kW motors. The Sailor option has the power benefits of the Cruiser combined with the wind-powered potential of traditional sails and rigging, while the Sky Sails version features a towing kite with full automatic control.

The Cruiser version has a cruising speed of around 6kts and a top speed of 12kts, which increases to a 12-15kts cruising speed and a

20kts top speed in the E-Power version. The Hybrid Power version's combination of diesel engines and electric motors allow it to achieve top speeds in excess of 20kts.

The Silent 55's near-8.5m beam allows for cabins, bathrooms and living spaces that are both generous and numerous. Six layout configurations are available, ranging from a three-stateroom and three-bathroom VIP arrangement to a sixstateroom and four-bathroom layout that can sleep 12.

In addition to promising maintenance-free motors, the Silent 55 also includes a 25-year solar panel warranty and a 10-year battery bank warranty. 30





Quick Specs

SILENT-YACHTS SILENT 55 PRICE POA LENGTH (OVERALL) BEAM 8.46m DRAFT 1.2m DISPLACEMENT 17.2t dry FUEL 500-1600L WATER 1000L MOTORS 2 x 30kW electric (Cruiser model) WEB www.silent-yachts.com

