

'GP54'

A NEW GENERATION OF PILOT BOAT FROM CHEOY LEE SHIPYARDS



Hong Kong's renowned Cheoy Lee Shipyards has recently delivered the 'GP54', one in a series of four new craft for Singapore-based pilotage and towing firm PSA Marine.

Cheoy Lee's foray into pilot boat concepts began with an order of seventeen 12.5 metre pilot boats in 1989. Their success was almost instantaneous. After the order was delivered, many more orders for the vessel design followed.

The original (and highly successful) 12.5 metre design, built with both conventional and jet drive propulsion options, was soon stretched to a 13.5 metre version, and then further still to 14.5 metres. With PSA Marine's recent order requiring even larger vessel variants, it was time to introduce a new design form. This latest batch of vessels begins a new chapter for the shipyard as it implements an entirely new and refined hull design for its pilot boat series.

The new pilot vessel measures 15 metres in length overall, with a 4.4 metre beam and a 1.35 metre draught. Powered by twin MAN D2878LE 403 engines, each rated for 336kW and driving through Twin Disc MGX-5114A gearboxes, the 'GP54' handily exceeded the stipulated speed of 25 knots on sea trials and exhibited excellent sea keeping throughout.

Constructed from fiberglass, the vessel features a resin-infused, foam-cored "Deep-V" hull, main deck and

superstructure. The craft has also been built to Lloyd's class requirements.

The new hull is based on a design previously used by Cheoy Lee for ferry and harbour launch applications. With the dimensions both longer and wider than the previous pilot vessel designs, the hull form made an ideal platform for PSA Marine's stated requirements.

The main deck is fitted out to provide seating for eight pilots, in addition to helm seating for the captain on the centerline and navigator to port. Below deck forward there is a head, galley and dinette area for the crew. Both the main and lower deck accommodation areas are air-conditioned, powered by a 16kW Kohler generator.

The side decks are wide for safe movements around deck, and the large aft deck incorporates two flush engine removal hatches for direct access to engine components and machinery without disruption to the vessel's interior.

Cheoy Lee was a natural partner for PSA Marine, who offers pilotage services in and around Singapore and towage services throughout South East Asia. PSA Marine's tug fleet already proudly features multiple Cheoy Lee-built Z-Tech tugs, and the organisation also operates a fleet of Cheoy Lee-built water boats to supply potable water to ships visiting Singapore.

For further information contact:
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'GP54'

SPECIFICATIONS

Type of vessel:	Pilot boat
Port of registry:	Singapore
Flag:	Singapore
Owner:	PSA Marine
Designer/builder:	Cheoy Lee Shipyards, Hong Kong
Construction material:	FRP
Length overall:	15 metres
Length waterline:	13.65 metres
Beam:	4.40 metres
Draught:	1.35 metres
Depth:	2.33 metres
Main engines:	2 x MAN D2876LE 403 each 336kW
Gearbox:	Twin Disc MGX-5114A
Propellers:	Fixed pitch
Auxiliary engine:	Kohler 16kW
Generator:	Kohler 17EFOZD 17kW
Maximum speed:	25 knots
Electronics supplied by:	Furuno
GPS:	Furuno GP-32
Plotter:	Furuno GP-3500F
AIS:	Furuno FA-150
Other electronics:	Furuno Felcom-16
Seating:	Bostrom Sea Post
Safety equipment:	Viking
Type of fuel:	Diesel
Fuel capacity:	1,500 litres
Fuel consumption:	160 litres/hour
Freshwater capacity:	150 litres
Passengers:	8
Crew:	2

