



Nova Scotia

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BOATBUILDER

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Traditional South Shore Boat Builder Converts to Space Age Technology

One year ago, the first boat in Nova Scotia was successfully produced using the Vacuum Infusion Process (VIP) by boatbuilders **Aylward Fibreglass** of Shelburne, Nova Scotia. It's a giant leap forward for Aylward, using the most advanced technology in the fiberglass industry to date. VIP technology results in flawless laminates of superior strength, less weight, and all-round improved consistency.

Aylward Fibreglass is well known in the industry for its superior quality, hand laid fiberglass hulls and boats. Now, with the successful adoption of VIP, the company's well-positioned to diversify into the growing pleasure boat market. While the company's giant "Grizzly" hull has enjoyed success in the commercial fishing market, the current decline in fishing boat

orders has led Aylward to market their 25 foot traditional trawler design in several versions including a centre console, bass boat and cabin trawler. Future designs are on the drawing board to service the growing wake-boarding market.



Aylward 25

"We're not competing with local builders anymore, going after the same fishing dollars," says Glen Aylward, owner of Aylward Fibreglass. "The industry has to seriously look at working together to export our products. We're competing against established international manufacturers who run very efficient operations and

are using investment to access the latest boat building designs and technologies. It's crucial for us to get familiar with these latest production techniques and meet or exceed international standards."

Aylward Fibreglass uses VIP throughout all phases of its 25 foot vessel production. All the dry materials required are laid into the boat moulds, including layers of fibreglass and core material. A translucent vacuum bag covers the "ingredients" and then 14.7 pounds per square inch of vacuum is applied to hold the bag down. Finally, resin is drawn in by the vacuum and is distributed evenly throughout the layers of dry material. Resulting VIP moulded parts are lighter and stronger than traditional hand laid fibreglass. And an added bonus: there are virtually no Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) emissions which is great for both employees and the environment.

For more details visit:

www.aylwardfibreglass.com