



WEBASTO DEBUTS INDUSTRY FIRST A/C & HEATING SOLUTION
FOR OPEN COCKPIT BOATS AT IBEX

Webasto Thermo & Comfort North America and Volvo Penta of the Americas have unveiled a new fully integrated engine-driven air conditioner and optional heating system designed specifically for open-cockpit sterndrive boats. Developed as a collaborative effort, Webasto Breeze will be marketed to builders as an OEM-installed option and through dealers as an add-on.

The modular system is designed for easy turnkey installation into new boats. Volvo Penta supplies an upsized alternator and mounting bracket, and Webasto provides the belt-driven compressor, evaporator, condenser, seawater pump and dash-mounted controls. The entire system is 12VDC, eliminating the need for an auxiliary generator.

Specifically designed for the marine industry, Webasto Breeze provides ambient cooling and heating for many scenarios. It allows enthusiasts to extend their time on the water, providing a blast of cold air during the stifling summer heat and warming their passengers after a dip in the water when the temperatures start to decline later in the season.

Webasto Breeze puts out 7,000 BTU of ambient comfort at idle or slow speeds and up to 30,000 BTU at higher engine rpms. It is controlled by a simple dash-mounted unit with three fan speeds and a mode switch.

The first US boatbuilder to offer Webasto Breeze is Four Winns, which is introducing it as an option on the HD270 model. "We were totally blown

away by this new product," said Andy Lindsay, Four Winns Vice President of Sales. "Our dealers love it. We were so impressed that we presented our first-ever Suppliers Innovation Award jointly to Webasto and Volvo Penta at our dealer meeting this month."

"We value the creativity of our customers and appreciate the trust they place in us for providing solutions to problems they face," said David Wollard, Webasto Thermo & Comfort North America senior director of leisure markets. "Webasto Breeze is a perfect example of how user-driven requests can ignite innovation, especially when collaborating with other forward-thinking companies like Volvo Penta."

"Volvo Penta has a long and storied history of innovations in the boating industry, and this collaborative development program with Webasto has produced yet another industry first," said Ron Huibers, president of Volvo Penta of the Americas. "Our innovations are driven by our Easy Boating strategy, which aims to make it easier for more families to enjoy the boating experience. With Webasto Breeze, boat builders can offer their customers the convenience of automotive air conditioning for the first time in an open cockpit boat."

Boating journalists are invited to see Webasto Breeze in Booth 419 at IBEX, Oct. 2-4. A reception is scheduled for 4:00-6:00 pm, Wed., Oct. 3.

About Webasto

The Webasto Group is a global innovative systems partner to almost all automobile manufacturers and among the top 100 suppliers in this industry sector. In its core business areas the company develops and produces sunroofs, panorama roofs and convertible roofs as well as thermo systems for all drive types. In addition, with battery systems and charging solutions Webasto is expanding its product portfolio for electromobility. In 2017 the Webasto Group generated sales of 3.5 billion euros and has around 13,000 employees at more than 50 locations (with over 30 of these being manufacturing plants). The headquarters of the company, founded in

1901, is located in Stockdorf near Munich (Germany). For more information please visit www.webasto-group.com.

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About Volvo Penta

Volvo Penta, with approximately 3,500 dealers in over 130 countries, is a world-leading and global manufacturer of engines and complete power systems for leisure boats, commercial vessels and industrial applications. Product offerings encompass diesel and gasoline engines with power outputs of between 10 and 1,000 hp. Volvo Penta is part of the Volvo Group, one of the world's leading manufacturers of heavy trucks, buses and construction equipment. Connect with Volvo Penta of the Americas on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for the latest company news and insights.

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