

# ON THE DRAWING BOARD



## Jarrett Bay 46

It's no secret that many of the NASCAR good ol' boys love to fish and hunt in their off time. In fact, the late Dale Earnhardt was a frequent participant on the offshore fishing circuit with his boat called *Sunday Money*. The latest entry in this rarified league is NASCAR's Jeff Burton, who recently conspired with his primary sponsor — Caterpillar Engines — to build a Jarrett Bay 46.

Just off the design tables and with construction just beginning, Jarrett Bay plans to launch its newest 46 in just about one year's time. *Marlin* magazine will follow this construction project closely and report back on it to our readers on a regular basis. We will provide photo updates, online time-lapse video podcasts and even a blog about the build by Burton himself.

Caterpillar has supported NASCAR for 13 years and has been the primary sponsor of Burton's No. 31 Caterpillar Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet, so choosing a pair of 575 hp Caterpillar C9 ACERT diesels with Zeus pod drives seemed like a natural fit. This 46 marks Jarrett Bay's first foray into pod propulsion.

Being a NASCAR driver, Burton obviously was concerned about his boat's performance, and the pod drives offer superb results with improved fuel economy over standard props and shafts. Zeus's reliability, fuel savings and amazingly intuitive joystick control,

combined with Jarrett Bay's efficient hull design, promise to provide Burton with a unique blend of control and performance. However, he had other concerns the Zeus system answered as well. Spending much of his time on the water with his wife and two children, Burton wanted the additional interior space that installing pod drives provides. Burton says he probably wouldn't have opted for a larger boat like this without pods because even though he drives his car at 200 mph, like all part-time boaters, he gets a bit intimidated when backing into the slip with the wind and current ripping and everyone watching. "The handling capabilities that come with the pod technology actually gave me the security I needed to go ahead and build the boat — that and the low noise," says Burton. "I'm around an incredible amount of noise all day, so I really look

forward to getting away from any loud noises, and these pods are really quiet."

Like most racecar drivers, Burton is deeply involved in every aspect of his car's design and performance. Since you don't change the stripes on a tiger, he brings that same intense focus to the development and construction of his new 46 Jarrett Bay. Burton is taking the same lane with the development of his custom Jarrett Bay. Randy Ramsey, Jarrett Bay's president, says Burton's lifelong love of boats generated a lengthy wish list of unique features he wanted incorporated into his new 46 — some never before seen on a sport-fishing boat.

Since Burton plans to use the boat as a cruiser and a sport-fisher, he came to the build with several specific ideas, including full wraparound windows and a lower station in the salon. "It's no fun to be up on the flybridge in North Carolina in January; it's cold and nasty, and you're separated from the rest of your group. I wanted the full windows and the lower helm to keep from having to climb up there and drive the boat while leaving the family down below," says Burton.

Want to learn more about this innovative sport-fisher? Go online and bookmark Jarrett Bay, *Marlin* and Jeff Burton's websites, and check back often to follow the progress of a boatbuilding experience like no other.

— Dean Travis Clarke

### SPECIFICATIONS

LOA:	46'4"
Beam:	15'
Draft:	4'4"
Weight:	47,500 pounds
Fuel:	600 gallons
Water:	50 gallons
Power:	CAT C9 ACERT engines with Zeus pods, rated at 575hp
Price:	On request

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