

Location: The Netherlands

Service: Fire/Rescue Boat

Waterjet Model: HJ274



Dutch Fireboat Protects Isolated Homes and Waterways

Many properties in and around the village of Giethoorn (near Steenwijk in The Netherlands) are inaccessible by road, so the community relies heavily on boats for transport and emergency. The local fire brigade's newest firefighting vessel is a 6.7m skiff with waterjet propulsion and high performance features.

Since the 1980s the Fire Brigade has operated a waterjet powered fireboat out of the resort town of Giethoorn. While the original jet boat was reliable and versatile, it was underpowered so did not perform to requirements. When it came time to design a new boat a decision had to be made between waterjets or outboard engines.

Due to the large patrolling area with many shallows and submerged debris, plus the need for safety around people in the water, it was decided the new boat should utilise waterjets and diesel engines. A Hamilton Model HJ274 waterjet was chosen along with a 209hp Steyr engine, to give fast, powerful and efficient propulsion, together with high reliability, manoeuvrability and safety.

The new fireboat, named Blussen ("Blus" means extinguish or put out), has been

in operation for two years with great success. The laden speed of 32 knots and maximum speed of 38 knots make it considerably faster than the previous boat and it is able to get to emergency areas quickly and safely.

Giethoorn is known as the Venice of the North, due to its vast network of waterways. Houses and buildings are situated close to the waterfront and most can only be reached by foot, bicycle or boat.



HamiltonJet
www.hamiltonjet.co.nz

SERVICE:

Fire/Rescue Boat

LENGTH:

7.35 metres [LOA]

BEAM:

2.05 metres

DRAUGHT:

0.5 metres

CONSTRUCTION:

Aluminium

SPEED:

38 knots [light]

WATERJET:

Single Hamilton Model HJ274

ENGINES:

Single Steyr 236 diesel,
156kW (209hp) @ 4300rpm

DESIGNER:

Van Vossen Engineering,
Giethoorn, The Netherlands

BUILDER:

Arko Folkerts Service,
Oppenhuizen, The Netherlands

OWNER/OPERATOR:

Steenwijk Fire Brigade,
Steenwijk, The Netherlands

HamiltonJet DISTRIBUTOR:

AMW Marine, H. I. Ambacht,
The Netherlands