Harbour Patrol Steps Up With blue ARROW Controlled Vessel

The new Auckland Police patrol boat, Deodar III, is the culmination of an extensive research project to find the ideal vessel to fulfil a number of integrated roles. As it turns out, that ideal vessel was designed and built in New Zealand, and is powered by twin HamiltonJet HJ403 waterjets and blue ARROW controls.

Deodar III replaces a 15 year old monohull patrol boat that is simply too slow and inefficient to cope with the requirements of a marine police force in today's boating environment. With an enforcement area of over 2000sq nautical miles, which includes nearly 200 islands, Deodar III has to have endurance as well as high speed capability, yet still be manoeuvrable and stable for slow speed operations.

The decision to utilise a foil-assisted catamaran hull was largely based on the success of several other similar sized Teknicraft-designed workboats and ferries operating in the Auckland harbour. These vessels have proven the seakeeping and efficiency of the hull design, as well as the advantages of using waterjet propulsion and blue ARROW electronic controls. With Deodar III the police now have a boat with wide mission capabilities, and similar fuel consumption at 35 knots as the old Deodar II achieved at 19 knots.

Along with police duties, Deodar III will assist with rescue operations and Customs and Fisheries patrols. At times there may be only two crew members on board, so reliability and ease of use of the control system are paramount. HamiltonJet blue ARROW controls offer these benefits together with very intuitive controls to speed up the skipper training process and reduce the risk of accident.

New Zealand Police and Customs are now investigating extending their fleets and operational roles in Auckland and Wellington by introducing several more similar vessels over coming years.