

Press release

Hallberg-Rassy 342: World premiere in August



World premiere for the new Hallberg-Rassy 342 will be at the Open House weekend at Hallberg-Rassy in Sweden 26-28 August 2005.

Exactly 15 years ago the almost revolutionary HR 34 was launched. Never before had it been possible to combine so much sailing joy in such a comfortable and elegant yacht. This meant the model became one of the yard's best sellers with over 500 sold. The HR 342 is a complete new design that gives a little more of everything and at the same time offers all the good values that made the HR 34 so successful. Key words such as sailing performance, timeless elegance, comfort, fine joiner works and ease of handling are valid for both models. But the HR 342 uses its hull dimensions better. Within almost the same dimensions this gives for example:

- 40 cm (1 ft 3 ½ inches) longer waterline
- 9 cm (3 ½ inches) longer saloon berths
- 11 cm (4 ½ inches) longer forward berths
- Wider sleeping berths
- 4 cm (1 ¾ inches) better headroom, now 1.90 m (6 ft 3 inches)
- Larger tanks; both fresh water, fuel and holding tanks are increased 10 litres each

The rig is easier to handle with larger mainsail and a smaller, slightly overlapping genoajib. A selftacker is now possible. Frers latest design experience means improved performance. The rudder has spherical self-aligning bearings, giving minimum friction.

The cockpit has more comfortable seating with optimised shape of the backrests and the coamings are up to 5 cm (2 inches) higher, giving improved protection. The cockpit lockers are larger.

Weight distribution is also improved by moving for example the water tank and the batteries further to the centre of the boat. Also the keel bulb is thicker for lower centre of gravity. All this contributes to better sailing and seagoing performance.

The interior is brighter with larger side windows. The number of opening portlights is improved from 5 to 10. The forward cabin deck hatch is larger. This gives not only more light and ventilation, but it also makes it easier to get sails such as a furling gennaker or a Code Zero in and out. The heads compartment is 6 cm (2 ½ inches) longer and has now a dedicated wet locker. The sink and countertop is now Corian.

The batteries are of so called flat plate type, which allows deeper cycles than traditional batteries. Their capacity has been improved from 124 to 225 Ah. The engine alternator has been increased from 60 to 115 A.

The new HR 342 is a modern and well performing long distance cruiser who gives her owner great pride of ownership.

Further info:

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High resolution drawings may be downloaded by journalists free of charge at www.hallberg-rassy.com/Press/Press.shtml

(Information released 7 March 2005 by Magnus Rassy, tel +46 304 54 800)