



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZF Marine LLC takes delivery of ZF POD 4000 demonstration vessel

Miramar, Fla. – ZF Marine – a leader in marine propulsion systems, has taken delivery of a new 50 foot Viking Sportfishing yacht. The purpose of this vessel will be to demonstrate the ZF POD 4000 propulsion system.

The vessel is equipped with two Caterpillar C18 engines each producing 1150 bhp. These engines are mated to ZF 500 series transmissions, which are connected to the POD units via Centa carbon fiber driveshafts. The ZF POD 4000 drives are the highest rated propulsion pods in the market today, rated to 1200 bhp.

Control for the ZF POD 4000 comes from ZF Marine's well established SmartCommand control system, with JMS (Joystick Maneuvering System) and SteerCommand electric steering.

"Viking's long-time association with ZF Marine made us the logical choice for this collaboration," said Patrick Healey, executive vice-president, Viking Yacht Company. "Starting with our 47-year history of producing world class sportfishing yachts that combine performance and luxury, the Viking 50 convertible proved to be an able platform for this test of the new ZF POD 4000 propulsion system."

Initial sea trials have been very positive. Top speeds are in the 40 plus knot range with efficient and impressive fuel burn numbers, along with the outstanding maneuverability inherent in pod-drive propulsion systems incorporating joystick control.

"ZF Marine is very proud to take delivery of this very special vessel" said Wolfgang Schmid President and General Manager, ZF Marine LLC. "This new Viking is a showcase of our technology that allows our customers to experience a complete propulsion solution from ZF Marine." He continued.

More...

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The ZF POD 4000 Viking has recently participated in the Pirate's Cove and Mid Atlantic 500,000 fishing tournaments. The purpose of which was to demonstrate the ZF POD 4000's ability in the competitive sport fishing environment. The vessel is currently on an east coast tour that will include stops at the Annapolis, MD Boat Show, and the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. You can follow the ZF POD 4000 Viking on Facebook at www.facebook.com/zfpod4000

ZF Marine LLC would like to recognize the following companies for their assistance with this project:

Caterpillar Marine – Engines – www.marine.cat.com

Centa - Carbon Fiber driveshafts - www.centa.info

GPLink – Vessel and Systems monitoring – www.gplink.com

KVH Industries - Satellite Television – www.kvh.com

Underwater Lights USA – Transom lighting – www.seavision.com

Winslow Liferaft – Liferaft – www.winslowliferaft.com

Ocean Systems Inc. – Underwater and cockpit camera – www.splashcam.com

Release Marine – Helm Chairs and Gimbal Launcher – www.releasemarine.com

Edson International – Custom steering wheel – www.edsonintl.com

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Photo Captions:

Photo file: Viking Delivery 01 – ZF Marine takes delivery of their new Viking 50 Convertible equipped with ZF POD 4000 POD drives. Left to right: Joe Schwab, VP Sales, Viking Yacht Company; Patrick Healy, Executive Vice President, Viking Yacht Company; Wolfgang Schmid, President and GM, ZF Marine LLC; AJ Halavacs, Segment Manager Pleasure Craft ZF Marine LLC.

Photo file ZF POD 4000 Equipped Viking 50C – ZF Marine’s new Viking 50 Convertible with ZF POD 4000 pod drives offers increased vessel performance while reducing fuel burn.

ZF Marine Group

The ZF Marine Group, a division of the global ZF Group is a world leader in marine propulsion technology. Coordinated through its headquarters at Padova, Italy, ZF Marine has 14 plants in 11 countries with 1,400 employees and achieved sales of 247 million Euro in 2010.

ZF Marine supplies complete propulsion systems and components for all types of vessels - with a power range from 10 to 14,000 kW. The product portfolio includes a comprehensive range of products including; transmissions (reversing, non-reversing and hybrid), propellers (controllable and fixed pitch) together with associated shafts, seals and bearings, POD-drive systems, steering systems, CANbus-compatible electronic control systems, azimuth thrusters, tunnel thrusters, bow thrusters and sail drives.

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ZF Group

ZF is a leading worldwide supplier of Driveline and Chassis technology with 123 production companies in 27 countries. With its workforce of 64,000 employees, ZF achieved sales of 12.9 billion Euro in 2010. In order to be successful with innovative products, ZF annually invests more than 5 percent of its sales (Estimated 750 million Euro in 2010) in Research and Development.

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