

GUARDIA DI FINANZA BUYS TWENTY ZODIAC HURRICANE® RIBS

The Guardia di Finanza of Italy has bought 20 high performance RIBs (Rigid Inflatable Boats) from Zodiac Milpro International to meet their needs for versatile and practical fast patrol boats.

The Guardia di Finanza is an Italian law enforcement agency that is part of the Italian armed forces and is controlled by the Economics and Finance Ministry. It is responsible for tackling financial crime, smuggling, and drug trafficking and illegal immigration and consequently has a need for boats capable of exceptional performance and functionality.



Artist view of the ZH1110

The Guardia di Finanza has ordered fifteen Zodiac Hurricane® ZH940 and five ZH1110 RIBs. They both feature the unique stepped Mach 2 (Military Air Channelled Hull) that provides a 15 per cent improvement in performance when compared with conventional non-stepped hulls by directing air to the boat's keel. The ZH940 is powered by two 300 HP Evinrude outboard engines that enable it to run at over 45 knots fully loaded. The ZH1110 is fitted with three engines that give it an operational speed of more than 50 knots.

Boats from the Zodiac Hurricane® range are known to attract customers in the military and law enforcement sectors due to their combination of speed, sea-keeping and precise handling in extreme conditions. Both boat models chosen by the Guardia di Finanza are capable of running fully loaded at over 30 knots in sea state 4. The ZH1110 model is notable for being the first RIB to complete a voyage of the Canadian Arctic's North West Passage.

The boats chosen by the Guardia di Finanza have a range of over 200 miles and are capable of extended fast patrols throughout Italian territorial waters. Crew comfort consequently has a high design priority so the cabins are fitted with four of the latest generation of shock mitigating seats and are configured to accommodate a raised pilot seat that provides exceptional all-round visibility, a navigator console and a radio operator's post. All crew members are connected via the latest intercom technology and enjoy the benefit of full air conditioning. A separate forward cabin is fitted with a shower and toilet and space for a fridge and small cooker if required.

The Guardia di Finanza will take delivery of the first of its new Zodiac Hurricane® RIBs towards the end of 2012 when they will be added to the 600 boats and ships and more than 100 aircraft that the service currently maintains to support its operational requirements.

Quotations and more information on demand, contact us: info-milpro@zodiacmilpro.com