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Noah Barker
A New Concept in Sailing
17 November — 16 December, 2023

Up to the point where steam propulsion became dominant, speed under sail had entirely practical consequences. However, in recent times where sails are used almost exclusively on pleasure craft, the need for speed under sail is entirely subjective. That is, the speed of a boat is judged to be high or low, not in explicit economic or military terms but rather in the mind of the skipper. Put another way, the pleasure of sailing comes from a sensation of creating speed rather than the actual speed itself. A new concept in sailing has been developed which satisfies this desire to a far greater degree than any currently available sailing craft. A different kind of sailing skill is required, more akin to surfing and skiing, in which boredom is completely eliminated.

James R. Drake, The RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, California

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1969/2023

foam, fiberglass, epoxy, nylon, polyester, laminated pine, mahogany, stainless steel, fabricated by Jonas Buchholz and Gert Martin from designs by James R. Drake (developed in collaboration with Fred A. Payne, Jr., Vice President of Technical Operations, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Hoyle Schweitzer of Legal Billing Systems, Inc., Allen Parducci, Professor of Psychology, UCLA), presented in the paper WINDSURFING: A NEW CONCEPT IN SAILING, delivered at a symposium of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and published by The RAND Corporation

458 cm x 427 cm