The Landing School to Present the Evolution, Design, and Build of the Flyfisher 22 at IBEX

August 22, 2013

The Landing School, a post-secondary institution focused on educating tomorrow's marine industry professionals, is pleased to announce they will present the Evolution, Design, and Build of the Flyfisher 22, a Cold-Molded Center-Console Boat at IBEX Monday, September 16, 2013, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. With input from the head product developer and head marketing staff at the LL Bean hunting and fishing division, as well as several flyfishing guides, The Landing School and Van Dam Custom Boats developed custom plans for the Flyfisher 22, which ultimately became the project boat for the Wooden Boat Building (Cruising Boats option) program at The Landing School.

The Flyfisher 22 is a handsome center console with a bit of Downeast Maine styling. Designed by Van Dam Custom Boats specifically for saltwater flyfishing in the Northeast, the Flyfisher 22 is ideal for both close inshore breaking surf and shallow protected waters. The boat's performance range is between 26 and 41 mph with a range of approximately 200 nm staying in the suggested power range of 90-150 hp. With high fuel efficiency and low maintenance, this boat allows owners to explore and fish in a variety of conditions and bottoms.

The evolution, design and build of the boat is unique in that it needed to meet curriculum requirements for the school yet also be saleable. This unique combination of academic and aesthetic requirements led Van Dam and The Landing School to develop a boat that is beautiful yet user-friendly. Mitch Gilbert, Flyfisher 22 owner says, "The most unique features of the boat are the lines, woodwork and her ability to handle Long Island Sound waters which have a pretty constant two foot chop. We have put 300 hours on the motor in the two years we have owned it, fishing Long Island Sound and the waters off Eastern New York at least four times per week. We also "cruise" with friends in the Connecticut River. In either situation, the boat is stable, smooth and a pleasure to drive. We truly feel the quality is second to none."
In addition to the presentation, The Landing School Flyfisher 22 will be on display in the lobby of the conference center for those who wish to get a closer look. "This boat truly sells itself," said Jamie Houtz, Landing School faculty member and presenter at IBEX. "The fact that it's hand-built allows the school to incorporate items that you won't find in a manufactured boat. And because the Flyfisher 22 is essentially an educational tool the route we took to develop the design plans is unique. There isn't another boat like it on the market."

If you can't make it to IBEX, the Flyfisher 22 can be found at The Landing School in Arundel, Maine, where three more will be built this year.

**About The Landing School**

Headquartered in Arundel, Maine, The Landing School is a full-time, accredited post-secondary school that blends education in modern yacht design, boat building and marine systems technology under one roof. Founded in 1978, The School's inaugural program focused on Wooden Boat Building. Today, the school has grown to incorporate diploma and Associate's degree curriculums with concentrations in five programs: Wooden Boat Building (Small and Cruising Boats), Composite Boat Building, Marine Systems and Yacht Design. The Landing School's driving force is to bridge the gap between theory and practice, providing graduates with the skills and understanding necessary for current employment opportunities and future career growth. The Landing School is also approved as an institution of higher education by the Maine State Approving Agency for Veterans Education Programs.