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The Trawler & Ocean Motorboat Magazine

## GRAND BANKS ALEUTIAN 53RP



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## NEWS & NOTES

### A NEW CLASSIC

*Silver Spray*, hull number one of the highly anticipated Nordhavn 63, has been delivered to its new owner after commissioning at the company's Stuart, Florida, facility this summer. The owner took the new vessel, which is highly reminiscent of the salty Nordhavn



62 full-displacement design, on a shakedown cruise in the Bahamas before returning it to Stuart for final commissioning, and his long-range plans include a trans-Atlantic passage to the U.K.

Based on the very popular Nordhavn 55/60 hulls, the N63 measures 62 feet, 6 inches in overall length, has an 18-foot beam, a 6-foot, 8-inch draft, and displaces 143,000 pounds. The aft wheelhouse is similar in height to the N55, creating excellent 360-degree views and a large Portuguese bridge, and features the same extended cockpit and boat deck found on the N60. This configuration makes possible a large open foredeck that provides extra safety from boarding seas, as well as a well large enough to support tenders up to 15 feet in length and a standard Steelhead ES1500 telescoping yacht crane with a 1,500-pound safe working load.

With an eye to increased space and amenities, the N63 sports entirely new deck and engine room molds. The space just forward of the engine room door includes not only a utility room with washer/dryer

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and freezer, but also additional room for crew quarters. Fuel capacity is 2,500 gallons in four main tanks, and 31 gallons in Nordhavn's signature gravity-feed aluminum "day tank." The main engine is a John Deere 6081AFM with an M3 rating of 330hp at 2300 rpm, which is keel-cooled and equipped with a dry stack exhaust. A range of at least 3,000nm is expected.

We'll cover the N63 fully in a future issue. With commitments for four hulls at the time of this writing, Nordhavn seems well on its way to establishing the N63 as its next distance-cruising classic. For more information, log on to [www.nordhavn.com](http://www.nordhavn.com). —J.W.

### RAYMARINE'S FIRST OF MANY

When FLIR completed its purchase of Raymarine in May 2010, one of the consequences was speeding up development of Raymarine's next-generation multi-function displays (MFD). This month that effort has borne fruit with the launch of the E7 Network MFD, described as the first incarnation of a new "helm-friendly design."

The E7 incorporates much of the iPhone functionality that consumers have become accustomed to in an electronic device, a trend throughout the marine electronics industry. For example, from the "home screen" the user can swipe the touch screen to access pages and applications. Also, pages can be customized using a drag-and-drop feature.

Core functions with corresponding pages include chart plotter, radar, sonar, thermal camera, weather, multi-media instruments and monitoring, and a video repeater.

The E7 uses a new operating system and features "hybrid touch," which means all functions can be completed either through the touch screen or using keypad control and



Raymarine E7

rotary knob. The latter is usually easier when the boat is bouncing in seas. Another good underway feature is a remote that clamps to the wheel and allows the helmsman to mark waypoints and adjust the display range and other variables such as speaker volume. The remote speaks to the E7 wirelessly via Bluetooth. It can also be worn on a lanyard.

For exposed locations, the E7 has a coated screen to optimize it for people wearing polarized sunglasses, a problem with earlier displays. And speaking of Apple operating systems, built-in wi-fi lets you turn an iPhone or iPad into a repeater.

These are just a few of the many features native to the E7, and it is a harbinger of products to come under the management. Not including charts, the E7 Network MFD costs \$1,749, add \$200 for sonar.—P.S.

### WINDLASSES FOR THE 50-AND-UNDER CROWD

Windlasses certainly rank among the most important pieces of gear aboard any boat. Without one that works reliably, you could find yourself in dire straits, indeed. The folks at Maxwell know winches and windlasses as well as anyone, it's been their stock in trade for decades and they have much experience when it comes to building rugged, reliable products. When they announce a new product, it's usually something that's worthy of note, and the HRC 6, 8, and 10 series windlasses are no exception. With competitive pricing and a completely above-deck design, the HRC series