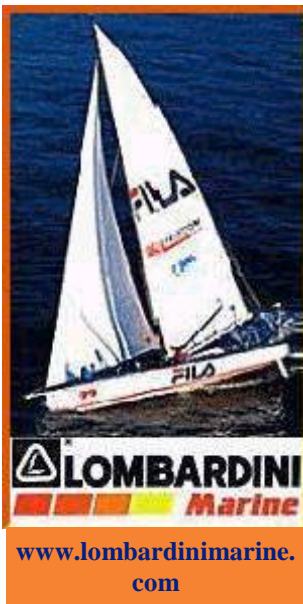


SHOW ROUND UP—SAILING YACHTS CONTINUED



A model of the **Rhum 50**, designed by naval architect Eric Baranger, was on display showing the frames. The boat is to be constructed by Chantier Grand Large of Aizenay. A full size section of the aluminium hull was also shown and the first in this new design should be completed for preview in December 2001

The yacht comes in two versions racer and cruiser racer and the first model will be a racing version, fitted out for a participant in class 2 of the 2002 Route du Rhum. The monocoque construction Rhum 50 should be exceptionally strong and light and the specification suggests that it will be a very serious contender in many events.



The **IRISoft 40**, designed by Plessis Marin Yacht Design, is intended for live aboard use. Pierre Lang, owner of this sailing yacht, spent 6 months in the yard of Technologie Marine, supervising the build of the wood/epoxy sandwich construction yacht and working on a system of auxiliary electrical power.

The concept behind Lang's idea is that living on board for long periods requires modern electrical domestic appliances which require con-



siderable power. He, therefore, decided to install a large generator to supply the required power and at the same time drive the boat via an electric motor. This present boat is fitted with a Fisherpanda 20 kW generator, which is completely isolated so noise and vibration are greatly reduced. Inside, to create a spacious atmosphere, the walk through has been put on the starboard side of the boat and not the centre as in conventional yachts.

When shown at La Rochelle, the boat had been in the water for 1 month and had 200 miles on the log. Lang is promoting and marketing the design of the boat and will also sell the technology and design system for the electrical installation, but is not interested in becoming involved in the business of installing and selling generators and mechanical components. The hull of the IRISoft 40 is based on that of the Klipper 40, another boat by Gildas Plessis and Julien Marin that has been described as 'more racer than cruiser'. A model of the modified Klipper hull underwent extensive tank testing.

SPONSORS WANTED

Charlie Capelle, owner of chantier Technologie Marine, which built the IRISoft, is also an oceann racer. He is currently looking for sponsors for the 50 foot trimaran which he is preparing for the route du Rhum 2002. Capelle can be contacted at technologie.marine@wanadoo.fr