

Ran Tan

The latest in a series of canting keel yachts from Elliott Boat Design

Showing no signs of abating, despite the negative press that some have received, canting keels remain popular with yacht owners in both the northern and southern hemispheres.

High Modulus has worked with Elliott Boat Design on a number of projects over the years, and although the design practice has been involved with a range of fixed, swing and canting keels, their recent launches are testaments to the fact that canting keels are still very much a growing trend.

Their most recent launch was *Ran Tan*, a canting-lifting keel 50ft (15.2m) racer and the sister ship to *Sportivo*. *Sportivo* has turned a lot of heads on the Auckland yacht club scene since her launch in March 2005, and *Ran Tan* is likely to do the same. Both boats were built at Salthouse Boatbuilders in New Zealand, and a 52ft (15.8m) canting keel evolution of this design is currently under construction - *Outsider* is due to be launched at the end of 2006 and will debut in the Round North Island Race, before leaving for the waters of northern Europe.

Another recent Elliott launch destined to make a mark on the world stage is Graham Dalton's *A Southern Man*. This canting-keeled, single-handed IMOCA Open 50 race yacht had her shakedown cruise during the two-handed SSANZ Double Handed around Waiheke, Auckland. She is now on a container heading to the US so that Dalton can complete a 2000nm qualifier in time to start the Velux 5 Oceans Race later this year.

This recent barrage of canting keel race yachts from Elliott Boat Design and High Modulus started with the impressive 100ft (30.5m) *Maximus*. Launched in February 2005, *Maximus*

made her name by winning the Rolex Transatlantic race on handicap, and winning line honours in the Rolex Round the Island and Rolex Fastnet races later that year. Brian Jones, Engineering Business Development Manager and co-owner of High Modulus, sailed beside designer Greg Elliott during the Rolex Transatlantic race. More recently she was awarded the Round the Island record, set on the Isle of Wight (UK), during Skandia Cowes Week in August this year.

Not satisfied with designing winning race yachts, the Elliott Boat Design office has also produced the lines for a number of production cruising yachts. Currently in build at Hutcheson Boatbuilders in New Zealand, the Elliott 1350 Tourer (13.5m / 44ft) incorporates the High Modulus SmartPac, a new construction solution for production boatyards.

