Classic Wood Boat Design Withstands Bottom Strikes



Montana Boatbuilders

Livingston, Montana www.montanaboatbuilders.com

In the heart of the western U.S. trout fisheries, Montana Boatbuilders crafts high quality drift, duck and other classic rapid water boats using wood and composite construction, based on the traditions of wooden boatbuilding and the advantages of new technology. The bottom panel of these custom boats is a composite of a high strength Kevlar® reinforcement with a PP Honeycomb core which offers unsurpassed impact resistance and is very light weight. These boats are used almost exclusively in fast moving, low water rivers where the hull must take consistent hits and abrasion from rocks, sand and gravel.

A standard layup of Kevlar ${\rm \rlap{I}\hskip-.04in}$ and fiberglass laminations on each side of

Plascore PP Honeycomb Core is then attached to the side panels of the boat with fiberglass fillets. The interior floor is sprayed with a rubbery bed liner material over the inner most glass lamination and a harder polyurethane bed liner material is applied over the exterior for abrasion resistance. The same 3/4" core material is used for false floors in the boat interior.

Montana Boatbuilder owner, Jason Cajune places a high value on the lightweight, high strength attributes of Plascore PP Honeycomb Core. "The density of the core compared to a 3/4" plywood core is substantially less, enabling our boats to have a significantly lighter hull weight than either a full fiberglass boat or a full plywood boat of the same size," says Jason. "Additionally, the two laminations separated by the honeycomb afford essentially a double bottom so that even a catastrophic strike has not

gone through both the outer and inner laminations. The core will crush and absorb some of the impact although in our experience we've only seen skin lamination shear failure without the core rebounding somewhat. We haven't seen a through hull breach in any of our boats."

Visit Montana Boatbuilders at www. montanaboatbuilders.com to review the companies entire product offering, including kits.

Advantages

- Adds exceptional strength without weight
- Provides 'hidden' composite advantages
- Core provides energy absorption
- Easily manufactured

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Jason Cajune, Owner Montana Boatbuilders, Livingston, Montana



(800) 630-9257 www.plascore.com