

# Inspired by Dr Who

*This futuristic go-anywhere cruising yacht has a lifting keel and water ballast plus an ingenious push-button system to launch and retrieve the dinghy*

**A**xonite was a wacky material from UK TV series *Dr Who*. For

however, it's that link to the future that matters for the marketing.

K&M build highly interesting, no-nonsense aluminium cruising yachts, and input from designers such as Gerry Dykstra and a very knowledgeable clientele make their yachts always worth looking at.

The 69ft Axonite is no exception, but designer Guido de Groot has gone futuristic inside and out.

Apart from the big deck saloon, painted aluminium hull, the yacht's futuristic fittings include underwater lighting, sole heating, water ballast, a carbon rig, a sophisticated computer

control system, air conditioning and what the company call 'an auto dinghy release' system.

The Axonite is equipped with twin rudders, so a dinghy can be stowed between the rudder posts. Eeuwé Koop, owner of the yard and an engineer, said: "Our aim is for such as Gerry Dykstra and a very knowledgeable clientele make their dinghy with the outboard motor attached in just a couple of minutes – without any pushing and pulling – just a single press of a button and away you go."

Sounds great. Hope it works. With her hydraulic lifting keel and the water ballast, this is a cruising yacht that certainly sounds versatile with a futuristic style and a touch of luxury.

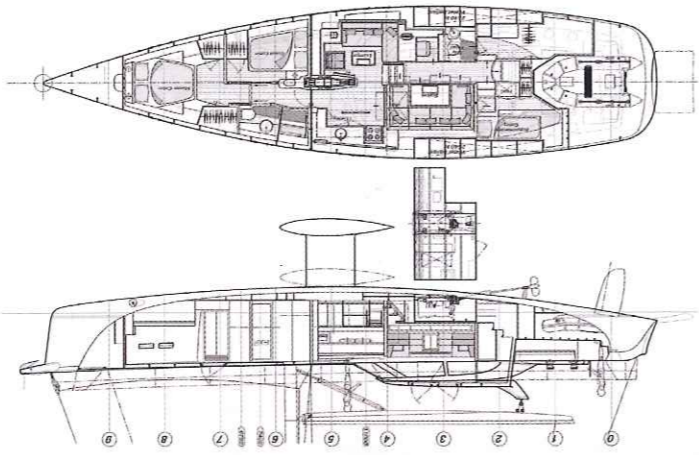
[www.kmy.nl](http://www.kmy.nl)



Above: the focal point of the accommodation in the decksaloon – and the styling throughout is ultramodern



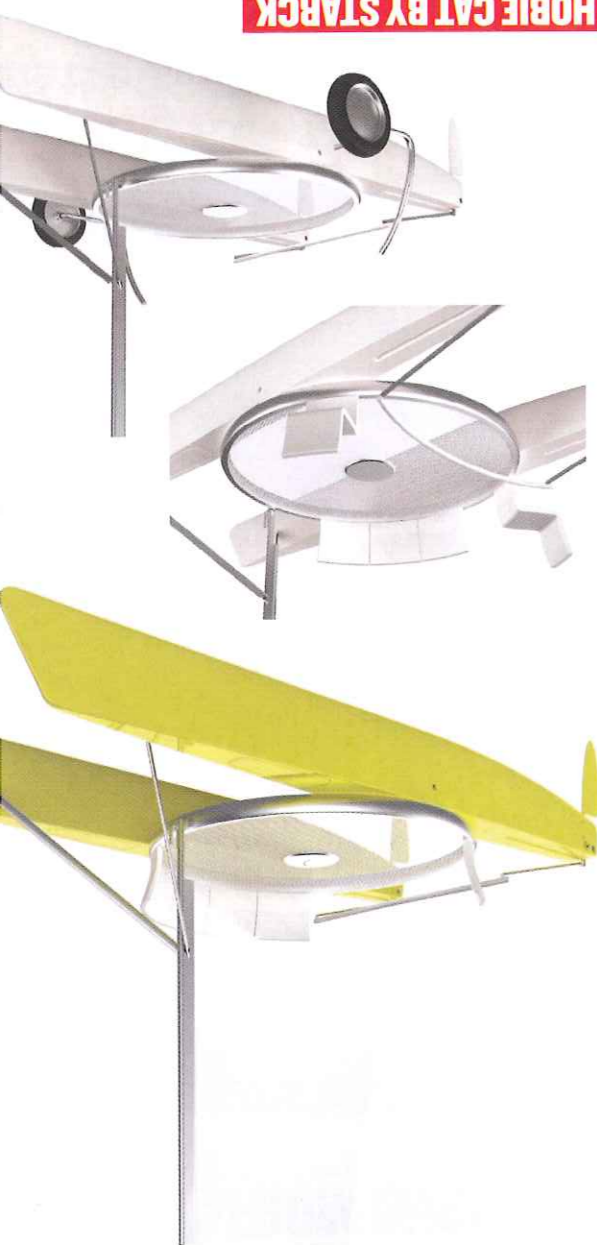
**AXONITE 69**



Twin rudders, a lift keel and water ballast make for a versatile yacht. Note the centreline dinghy stowage

# Armchair sailing

**HOBIE CAT BY STARCK**



*The iconic Hobie Cat gets a makeover, a r and some armchairs from Philippe Starck*

Aficionados of the Hobie concept, invented in 1967 by Californian Howard Chapman and an armchair. But that's what designer Philippe Starck came up with when he was invited to revamp the product. There's also an in-mast furling mainsail and separate wheels that

cat easier to get up the beach. Starck's idea is based on a disc-shaped trampoline which holds the whole thing together. On top of that are high-backed seats, which slide round the perimeter of the trampoline.

But isn't this all a bit soft? Hobies work because you get up, get out, get wet and go fast. Armchair sailing it shouldn't be. And as for the electric motor...

[www.hobie-cat.net](http://www.hobie-cat.net)

