

MERSEY CLASS ALL-WEATHER LIFEBOAT SPECIFICATIONS

Hull Structure

The Mersey Class FCB has a 10 metre waterline length hull, manufactured from FRC with inherent self-righting capability. All hull fittings, machinery and electrical fittings, appliances, tools etc., are well secured by a combination of nuts, bolts, drop-nose pins and shock cords to retain them in place should a knockdown or capsize occur.



The hull exterior has a soft

nosed bow with reverse sheer. A spray rail protects the deck and wheelhouse from thrown spray when travelling at speed. A good working space is provided on the foredeck; the reverse sheer allows clear vision over the stern when the bow rises at speed.

A fairly low freeboard permits the recovery of survivors from the water while giving enough height in the bow for good seakeeping. The hull has a round bilge and a semi-displacement form, with a tunnel stern and radiused transom.

The keel has hauling shoes forward and aft which have ruffle holes to allow beach or slipway launch / recovery.

The FRC boats have closed-cell rigid polyurethane foam buoyancy under the anchor in the fore peak and in the fore cabin sole.

Adjustable trim tabs are fitted to either side of the centreline, under the stern and below the waterline in order to adjust the trim of the lifeboat to suit varying sea conditions, these are controlled independently from the wheelhouse helmsman's console and a parallel set of controls on the upper steering position instrument console.

The hull is subdivided by four watertight bulkheads in five compartments.

- 1) Fore Peak Cable Locker
- 2) Fore (Survivors) Cabin
- 3) Engine Room
- 4) Oil Fuel tank Space / wheelhouse
- 5) Aft Peak Steering Gear Compartment

The rudders are twin semi-balanced spade type and propellers are four-bladed cast Nickel, Aluminium, Brass (NAB) The propeller shafts are fitted with Spurs type rope cutters.

Technical specification on the next page

Brief Technical details of the Mersey Class Lifeboat

Length overall (LOA)	11.582 metres (12)
Beam	3.810 metres
Depth moulded	1.820 metres
Typical Draught (no crew but fully loaded)	Aft 0.910 metres
	Fwd 0.990 metres
Displacement (Typical)	14.25 Tonnes
Engines	Twin Cat.3208T diesel
Shaft horse power	210kW each
Maximum speed (Typical)	16.5 knots
Crusing speed	16 knots
Range at crusing speed	162.5 nautical miles
Duration at cruising speed	10.26 hours approx.
Fuel capacity	1088 litres
Number of crew	6