

Noble Prize Boat?

From Oslo comes news of yet another nominee. The Fjord 40 Open is one of a handful of boats nominated as Europe's "Best Motorboat of the Year." Designer Patrick Banfield concentrated on comfort, speed and a generous deck layout for this first in a whole new line. With twin Volvo diesels powering a Volvo IPS drive system, the 40 Open can reach 44 knots underway; 33 feet of open deck space can accommodate as many as 12 people, while down below there's an owner's cabin with double bed, flat screen television, plenty of closet space and a groovy shower/head combination. It's safe to say the Fjord will be a real contender at this year's "Boot" in Dusseldorf where the winner will be announced. *www.fjordboats.com*