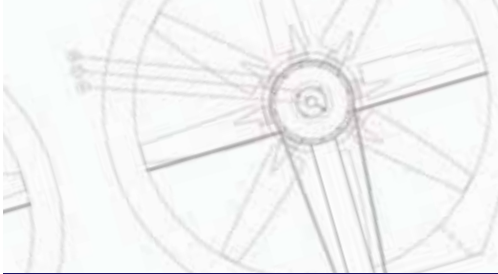




Griffon Hovercraft



Commercial



Griffon Hovercraft

Welcome to Griffon Hovercraft

Griffon Hovercraft Limited produces the largest range of hovercraft available in the world today. Cruising at high speed, these amphibious diesel-engined craft operate best where it is difficult, if not impossible, for conventional boats to operate i.e. over land and shallow water, sand, mud, rocks, weeds, logs, debris, ice and rapids.

Griffon hovercraft are in service throughout the world, from the Arctic to the Tropics. Current commercial applications include commuter and tourist ferries, hydrographic and seismic surveys, airport crash rescue and firefighting, mobile medical clinics, oil rig and civil engineering support.

With over 30 years operational experience, these unique, durable and versatile craft are custom designed to provide a reliable, efficient and economical solution to operations in difficult geographical locations.

Griffon Hovercraft – hovercraft that work

Applications



Hydrographic Survey

Griffon hovercraft have carried out many hydrographic surveys, using several different techniques, along rivers, dams and coasts around the world. These craft can save significant survey time by being unconstrained by tidal considerations - the surveyors often transferring to land survey techniques as and when required.



Seismic Survey

Seismic surveys, mostly for oil and gas companies, have also been carried out by Griffon hovercraft worldwide - again, mostly in tidal or shallow water areas.



Search and Rescue

Many Griffon hovercraft are used where it is difficult, if not impossible, to rescue people by conventional boats or vehicles, i.e. over swamp, quicksand, flooded areas, mud-flats and thin ice. For instance, the British Royal National Lifeboat Institute currently operates six Griffon hovercraft in areas unreachable by any of its 350 lifeboats.



Passenger Ferry

Tourists travel on Griffon hovercraft simply for the experience. Commuters and shoppers use them just like boats. Authorities and environmentalists like them because they produce virtually no wash/wake at high speed.



Civil Engineering Support

Griffon hovercraft are often used on "reconnaissance missions" to survey potential engineering projects. They are then used to transport people and equipment during the subsequent construction, dredging or pipeline-laying phases - often operating from an unprepared beach or a dried-out harbour.



Airport Crash Rescue

When airports are surrounded by difficult terrain, Griffon hovercraft are often the only craft capable of providing rescue services to these areas. Equipped with full firefighting and life-saving equipment, these unique amphibious high-speed craft will deal with virtually any emergency scenario.



Air Cushion Solutions

Griffon Hovercraft Limited designs and builds unique equipment, based on the air cushion principle, in order to solve many customers' particular problems. Examples include hovering crop-sprayers, hovering cricket-pitch covers, hovering reed-cutters and hover-platforms (barges) capable of carrying payloads up to 125 tonnes.



The Griffon Range

Griffon Hovercraft Limited leads the world in the design, development, manufacture and operation of hovercraft and produces the largest range of amphibious hovercraft available in the world today.



8100TD



8000TD



4000TD



3000TD



2000TD



1000TD



470TD



380TD

Advantages

Fully amphibious

Operate over water, land, sandbanks, mudflats, weed, ice, rocks and rapids.

High speed

Cruise at full payload at speeds of 30-45 knots (35-52 mph, 56-83 km/hr).

Low initial costs

Similar prices to conventional boats of the same speed and payload.

Low operating costs

Similar operating costs to conventional boats of the same speed and payload.

Diesel engines

Give reliability, long life and economy.

Negligible noise levels

About the same as trucks or high speed boats.

Highly manoeuvrable

As manoeuvrable as boats.

Simple

Simple in design, manufacture, operation and maintenance.

Reliable

Proven over tens of thousands of operating hours worldwide.

Easy to operate

Take the same time to learn to operate as learning to drive cars or trucks.

Easy to maintain

Ordinary diesel or boat mechanics can service and maintain the craft.

Minimal training

From one day for the smallest craft to eight weeks for the largest.

Very little spray

Low cushion pressures keep spray to a minimum.

No wash/wake

There is virtually no wash/wake at high speed.

Can be classified

Classified by Lloyds, US Coastguard and other classification societies.

No berthing problems

Will operate equally successfully from unprepared beaches and riverbanks as from piers, pontoons and harbours.

Experienced team

The management of Griffon Hovercraft Limited has been involved in the design, development, manufacture and operation of amphibious craft for over 30 years.



	380TD	470TD	1000TD	2000TD	3000TD	4000TD	8000TD	8100TD
Length (m) hovering	6.80	8.04	9.00	12.70	18.40	21.20	21.30	22.55
Beam (m) hovering	3.76	3.92	4.70	6.10	10.10	10.10	11.00	11.00
Height (m) hovering	2.65	2.41	3.05	3.93	5.34	5.34	5.52	5.86
Passengers (excluding crew)	5	5-7	8-11	20-25	26-42	36-68	54-82	60-98
Minimum crew	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Maximum payload (tonnes)*	0.38	0.47	1.00	2.20	4.00	5.90	9.30	12.00
Normal endurance (hours)	5.0	4.5	17.0	10.0	6.0	5.5	5.0	5.0
Fuel consumption (litres/hr)	16	22	25	45	150	165	230	250
Speed at full payload (knots)	30	30	27	35	37	35	45	45
Engine type - (Diesel)	1xVW / 1xB&S	2 x VW	1 x Deutz	1 x Deutz	2 x Deutz	2 x Deutz	2 x IVECO	2 x IVECO
Power (kW/HP) per engine	63/84 / 24/32	63/84	141/192	330/440	440/590	440/590	630/840	630/840
Approximate obstacle clearance (m)	0.36	0.50	0.43	0.73	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
Maximum recommended wave height for passenger operation (m)	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8

*Maximum payload figures denote payload for an open basic well-deck craft (without main cabin, but with crew cabin), the craft containing full ballast, full fuel for the endurance shown, and with the number of crew shown



Griffon Hovercraft - About Us

In 1963 Sir Christopher Cockerell, the inventor of hovercraft, asked the Founder Director of Griffon Hovercraft Limited to help set up the world's first commercial hovercraft operating company. In 1976, Griffon Hovercraft Limited (GHL) was formed in order to design and manufacture smaller, simpler and more cost effective hovercraft than hitherto had been available. This led to GHL becoming the first company in the world to install diesel engines in small to medium sized hovercraft, and to other innovations such as ducted propellers, skirt shift control systems and significantly lower noise levels.



GHL pursues a constant programme of product development both for the standard range of craft and for specific customer requirements such as hover platforms, air cushion crop sprayers, reed harvesters and mobile cricket pitch covers. Research and Development is aided by powerful finite element computer programmes and the constant feed back from worldwide operators.

GHL advises customers on all aspects of hovercraft operation including route analysis, task organisation and implementation, base and terminal planning, selection and training of crews, spare parts, service support and after sales service. Griffon Hovercraft Limited has ISO 9001:2000 accreditation and its hovercraft are regularly classified by Lloyds Register of Shipping and other classification societies.

Griffon Hovercraft Limited leads the world in the design, development, manufacture and operation of small to medium sized amphibious hovercraft.





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