Award a show of support

The award-winning Quicksilver 705 cruiser has made its Australian debut at the 2013 Sydney International Boat Show.

The Activ 705 Cruiser arrived in Sydney fresh from winning the 2013 Motor Boat of the Year award at the London Boat Show.

It is the third year running that Quicksilver has won one of Europe’s top boat design awards.

Designers of the sporty and spacious Activ 705 say they have concentrated on safety features such as carefully positioned handrails and good cockpit access from the large swimming platform, high freeboard and a non-skid surface.

The boat can carry up to eight and comfort is enhanced with a permanent galley and large dining area that can convert into a double berth for cruising.

The Sydney International Boat Show began on Thursday and runs until Monday.

Raft is real saviour

A small, easily managed Australian life raft designed for inshore and coastal waters came to the rescue again last month.

In the waters of Port Hacking River in NSW, an SOS Marine two-person life raft was instrumental in the rescue of two sailors whose boat had capsized.

PolAir dropped a life raft and inflatable lifejackets to the men to effect a rescue.

Afterwards, the life raft was able to be quickly serviced and ready again for the next rescue.

Equipment designers said the rescue highlighted the features of the SOS Marine two-person life raft built as a light and cheap raft for inshore and coastal waters.

A company spokesman said the SOS two-person raft weighed about 8kg and was an easy device to use by rescue teams and for boaters travelling alone or with one other person.

The value-packed raft includes a signalling mirror, fresh water and a mini-flares kit.

It also has three large ballast pockets and a thermal floor against moderate water temperatures.

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