

# ERDEVICKI 125

Vancouver designer debuts the trapezoidal keel



Erdevicki 125

Over dinner with some excellent wine, Vancouver naval architect, Ivan Erdevicki, and his brother Dejan, a structural engineer, decided sailboats deserved a more efficient keel.

**DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION** After many long hours of design, the trapezoidal keel was born. The ballast, encased in a torpedo, is held by three slim struts or foils.

"When the boat heels, the windward foil becomes vertical which improves efficiency," Erdevicki said. "Other advantages are that it spreads the load, allows more ballast—resulting in a stiffer boat—and requires less overall depth."

He originally drafted this sleek 125' performance cruiser to show off his radical keel concept, and displayed the design at the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show in November, 2003. *Yachting World*, the prestigious British magazine, reported, "This unusual keel configuration certainly...set people thinking."

Although still in the concept stage, Erdevicki reported that based on the

interest shown by some of the large yacht manufacturers at the show, he was currently designing an 85-footer with a trapezoidal keel. "Hopefully," said Erdevicki, "one of them will want to produce it."

Erdevicki also designed a twin foil keel using the same principles for race boats and he said that it has attracted attention of some America's Cup designers.

**BELOW DECKS** In addition to the radical keel, the Erdevicki 125 has an all-glass deckhouse that allows an overhead as well as a 360° view from the saloon. "I like to experiment with new concepts," he explained.

**OTHER DESIGNS** While much of his work involves designing luxury motor yachts, RIBs and workboats, Erdevicki's long-term goal is to specialize in large sailboats. Recently he designed a 64' aluminium motorsailer for an American client who has circumnavigated the globe twice and crossed the Atlantic 33 times. "She has a fine, narrow hull and is capable

of 18 kts under sail," Erdevicki reported.

Well-known yacht designer Bob Perry, in reviewing the Erdevicki 64 in *Sailing*, wrote, "Ivan has done a beautiful job... Everything was done on a computer but that didn't stop the artist in Ivan coming through loud and clear. This unusual, shoal draft motor sailor will make a very interesting cruising boat."

But Erdevicki also enjoys the classical style. A 70' cutter, with long overhangs reminiscent of the 1930s, is currently under construction for a client in Montenegro. And the Cape Elizabeth Yard in Seattle is building an 85' schooner-rigged motor sailor, based on an Ed Monk hull with a full keel, for long ocean passages.

Erdevicki, who was born in Montenegro in 1969, studied naval architecture in Zagreb, Croatia and mechanical engineering at UCLA. After working for two naval architects in the States, he moved to Vancouver where he set up his own business based in Coal Harbour.

For more information, visit [www.ivanerdevicki.com](http://www.ivanerdevicki.com). — Tony Sheridan