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'Soho Maru 88'

Latest purse seiner from Japan's Miho Shipyard

The 61.25 metre long purse seiner 'Soho Maru 88' is a new delivery from Japan's Miho Shipyard for local owner K.K Fukushima Gyogyo.

Designed for operations off the Japanese coast with an onboard complement of 24 crew, the seiner pairs a typically top-quality build hull and superstructure with the latest in fishing machinery and electronics to provide a highly effective fishing platform.

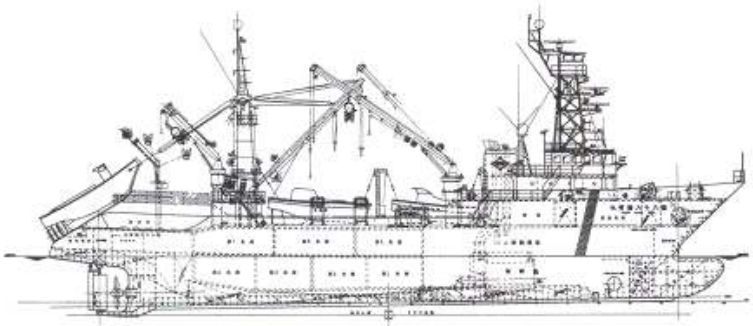
Construction is of steel for the hull and deck, with the superstructure being of aluminium build for lightness.

The long, lean hull has the now traditional Eastern influence of a raking bow and high forecastle, with a sharp bulb below the waterline leading back into a square midsection for maximum hold volume. Aft is the vessel's single propeller and large area rudder hung beneath the stern skiff ramp.

The small superstructure is located atop the forecastle and contains the ship's accommodation areas beneath the well-equipped bridge. The captain is given a fine vantage point from which to control his vessel, with views over the decks and ocean in all direction, while a profusion of LCD monitor screens gives him instant access to any information regarding the operation and navigation of his vessel.

Mounted on the roof of the bridge is the lookout tower which rises high above the main deck to provide the optimum fish-spotting platform. The structure also serves as a handy mounting point for the various radar domes and aerials that festoon modern day fishing vessels.

The rear deck is the heart of the vessel's fishing operations and contains all the necessary machinery, booms, power blocks and tackle for the efficient and safe deployment and retrieval of the massive purse seine net. Like the rest of the onboard hydraulic equipment, the fishing winches, net and catch handling cranes were all supplied by Kawasaki Precision Machinery with the conformity of manufacture helping to reduce maintenance hassles and costs. The seine skiff is launched off the stern ramp and various other tenders can also be launched as needed over the bulwarks from their davits.



The catch disgorged from the seine net can be sent directly below decks to one of seven separate refrigerated holds that have a combined capacity of 669m³. Unusually for a fishing vessel of this type, the holds take up the whole aft end of the vessel with the engine room located forward beneath the superstructure.

A long shaft connects the vessel's Kanome CP propeller to a single Daihatsu Diesel in this forward engine room. Outputting 2,942kW it provides for a cruising speed of 15 knots. Two Yanmar auxiliary diesels driving 1,000kVA generators provide all the necessary electrical power.

In 'Soho Maru 88' Miho Shipyard have built a vessel that successfully marries traditional influences with all the latest in fishing and navigation technology. Delivered to her homeport of Hachinohe in March this year, she is already proving herself a successful fishing machine for her new skipper and owners.

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'Soho Maru 88'

SPECIFICATIONS

Type of vessel:	Purse seiner
In survey to:	JG
Owner:	K.K. Fukushima Gyogyo, Japan
Builder:	Miho Shipyard, Japan
Construction material:	Steel (hull) Aluminium (superstructure)
Length overall:	61.35 metres
Length bp:	51 metres
Beam:	11.6 metres
Draught:	4.036 metres
Tonnage:	300GT
Main engine:	Daihatsu Diesel 6DKM-36L-1, 2,942kW
Propulsion:	Kanome CPP
Cruising speed:	15 knots
Auxiliaries:	2 x Yanmar 6N21AL-SV, each 880kW
Generators:	2 x 1,000kVA
Side thruster:	Kanome TFA-50UN
Hydraulic equipment:	Kawasaki Precision Machinery
Electronics supplied by:	Furuno
Radars:	2 x FR-2127 1 x FR-2165DS
Sounders:	2 x FCD-1200L
Net sounders:	3 x FNZ-18
Sonar:	FSV-20 CSH-83-BB GPS: 2 x GP-90
Fishing winches:	Kawasaki Precision Machinery
Catch handling cranes:	Kawasaki Precision Machinery
Refrigerated hold capacity:	669m³
Refrigeration system:	Nissin Refrigeration & Engineering
Fuel capacity:	302m³
Freshwater capacity:	16m³
Crew:	24