

HELIOTROPE 65 CATAMARAN LAUNCH



Location

Chonburi, Thailand

Duration

3 Days

Catamaran Specifications

Height	7m
Height inc. Trailer	7.9m
Length	20m
Weight	22t

Equipment/Services Used

Excavator

Multi axle hydraulic trailer

Hiab truck

Jumbo bags

Ratchet straps

SCOPE

CEA were commissioned to launch the ground breaking Heliotrope 65 Catamaran. The role of CEA was to transport the catamaran from her building yard to the beach and successfully float her in an efficient, safe and timely manner. As this was to be a beach launch CEA had to survey the local beach for the optimum position for launch and check tide levels for the projected launch date.

PROCEDURE

Day 1 Preparation

The CEA team measured out a 10 meter wide section of beach for excavation. A CEA excavator removed over three tonnes of sand and created a temporary slipway. 25 steel plates were laid on top of the slipway and into the sea with the final 8 plates only being laid after the tide had receded, this would allow the trailer and the boat to move safely along the beach during low tide.

The Heliotrope is one of the most technologically advanced and sophisticated boats in the sea. It is also marked as the first luxury solar-assisted powered catamaran in the world, its features include an intelligent sinking platform for easy access to the water, a jet-powered tender and scuba-diving tanks. The engine is nearly silent when it runs.

Day 2 Launch Day

A CEA multi axle hydraulic trailer positioned itself under the boat, wood chocks and rubber matting were placed under the agreed load points. The trailer was raised and took the full weight lifting the boat from its support stands. The boat was strapped and secured to the trailer and made the half mile journey to the launch site. At the launch site the trailer travelled along the steel plates and down the slip way. The trailer lowered the boat on to four jumbo bags filled with sand. As the tide was rising the bags were sliced open to allow the sand to dissipate in turn allowing the boat to float naturally.



THE HELIOTROPE BEING PUT THROUGH HER PACES AFTER LAUNCH

Day Three Clean up

After the successful launch the previous day CEA returned to the location to restore the beach to its original state, this started with the recovery of the 25 steel plates followed by the collection of the used jumbo bags and finally moving the sand back to where the slipway had been and packing it down accordingly.

All of the above was achieved without any environmental impact.



EXCAVATOR CREATES TEMPORARY SLIPWAY



25 STEEL PLATES ARE LAID



MAKING THE JOURNEY TO THE LAUNCH SITE



HELIOTROPE IN POSITION AWAITING THE TIDE

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