

MORE GEN 2 E-TECS FROM EVINRUDE

Recently we were invited to the Gold Coast for the official unveiling of Evinrude's latest additions to the Gen 2 range - the 150, 150HO, 175 and 200hp engines. These fit right into the most popular outboard class, designed for trailer boats of 5.5-7m.

They really are different looking outboards, with a unique shape, virtually unlimited colour combinations, and no external steering apparatus. Quite simply, there is nothing like them on the market, and they are difficult not to notice on the water.

The new 150hp E-TEC is available in standard form or in HO (high output) configuration. Like the others in this new release, the 150 is built on a V6 powerhead with a displacement of 2.7 litres. It weighs 225kg, which is similar to most of the four stroke opposition.

The new 175hp version is just 15kg heavier, and a great power choice for a 6m offshore sportfishing rig. It's fitted with Dynamic Power Steering, which I found to be a definite bonus when I tested the new engine on the Gold Coast Broadwater at Southport last Friday. Not only does this system make steering as easy as it gets, it also adjusts the amount of power steering assistance through the helm as boat speed increases or decreases.



Also part of the new series is what Evinrude calls I-Trim. It's standard on all Gen 2 models and assists the boat driver with automatic engine trim adjustment according to speed. There are five I-Trim profiles available for selection, and all the operator has to do is choose the profile that best suits the conditions of the day, and the engine will adjust its trim angle automatically. This can be manually over-ridden at the touch of the trim button, much like an automotive cruise control system.

The Gen 2 200hp E-TEC completes the new range, and this one is sure to be popular with those looking to power larger plate aluminiums for offshore work.

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