

# SUNSATION 32' DOMINATOR

PERFORMANCE  
HOT BOAT  
1993  
EVALUATIONS



The 32' Dominator is SunSation's latest creation; it lives up to company performance standards with a 9.6-second 0-to-60.

Until last year, SunSation may have been one of the best-kept secrets in high-performance, family-off-shore hotboating. But it blew the lid off the 1992 Hot Boat Performance Evaluations, where the stunning new 25-foot SunSation Aggressor promptly whipped the rub-railing off nearly everything else in its class during the all-important acceleration testing, giving

surprise among our team drivers.

Hitting 40 mph in 6.6 seconds with a 330-hp Bravo One may

come as no surprise to the growing, loyal contingent that has followed the company's steady market progress during its ten years in the business. It did, however, ferment a certain amount of anticipation among our driving team for SunSation's next effort.

Owned and operated in Suburban Casco, Michigan, by an enthusiastic trio of brothers - Wayne, Joe, and John Schaldenbrand - SunSation has followed up with the 32' Domina-

tor, a pricey, well-appointed 32-foot twin-sports machine that continues the

company's throttle-down, high-performance approach. Like the Aggressor, the newest deep-vee SunSation off

spring is bred to thrive on substantial

doses of horsepower and is Stoutly-built for recreational, open-water duty.

## THE PACKAGE



MerCruiser 454  
Magnums (2 - 365  
hp each) Bravo  
1 drives

The Aggressor's hand-laid bonded hull

and deck are each balsa-cored; SunSation's rear seat frame, engine hatch, and floors are fiberglass. Engine mounts are through-bolted, and all hardware and fasteners are top-quality Stainless steel. Railing is also stainless, although the old-style, multi-piece railing is used in some areas.

SunSation's fiberglass work is nicely done, indicative of thorough mold preparation; the deck tooling was particularly impressive.

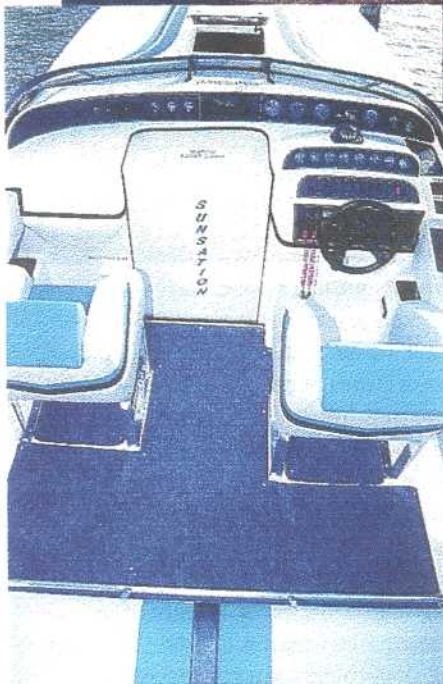
The deck mold features a step that facilitates easy access. SunSation offers three gelcoat colors standard, with two basic accents targeting a white base. The

graphics work well with SunSation's rakish, sleek lines.

Rigging detail on the SunSation is excellent, with the trim,

rub railing, deck hardware, and windshield frame installed flawlessly and sanitarily - ditto for the engine/drive installation, which mate side-by-side. 365 hp Bravo One pack-

**'POWERFUL, EASY TO DRIVE, AND EXTREMELY STABLE UNDER THROTTLE, THE SUNSATON 32' IS AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR HIGH-PERFORMANCE MINDED FAMILY BOATER.'**  
**- BRIAN DAVIDSON, NS TEST DRIVER**



open-water boating.

Considerable emphasis is placed on handling and performance with the Sunsatton, no revelation considering the company's past history. Twins are standard, and enhancements include external-mounted tie bar (\$380), wheel-mounted trim, Kiekhaefer dual-throttle Zero-Effort controls and engine synchronizer, and dual-ram trim tabs.

Hydraulic engine hatch, deck hatch, compass, stereo cassette, recessed deck cleats, grab handles, drink holders, and molded swim platform are stock-issue.

Bold, modern, and attractively styled, the Dominator's cabin is comfortable and contemporary. Front seats are drop-through bolster-type with stainless railing,

and the floor is gelcoated fiberglass with non-slip carpeting. The interior graphics are well exe-

cutted and match the exterior perfectly. The rear seats offer generous and deep support and are very comfortable even under full power. We really liked the use of all the interior grab railing.

Terraced VDO gauges facilitate

easy monitoring of the vitals; driver positioning is excellent in relation to wheel, throttles, and gauges. One missing feature we'd recommend if your boat is to be occasionally driven by someone less familiar with its feel than you are: trim tab indicators.

In addition to the Magnums, which add a total of 70 hp and \$6,000 to the bottom line, options included Silent Choice exhaust (\$1,760), external tie bar (\$380), and a bevy of creature comforts.

An attractively-styled and cleverly-built sliding door revealed a cabin that prove functional and traditional in style and execution. A removable plexi piece accesses a nifty how-tucked anchor area, and a Bomar deck hatch offers decent ventilation above a basic V-berth. The interior configuration includes a long, relatively comfortable sofa and facing love seat. Sink with fiberglass galley and counter, mirror, utility table, and drink holders are standard. Wet bar (\$750), shore power (\$600), cabin head lighting (\$100), and microwave (\$400) were among the options on our test boat.

ages, spinning three-blade Mirage stainless 14x25's.

As Sunsatton has graduated in size, so has its attention to rigging detail: we would like to have seen some kind of coating on the raw-steel engine mounts, however, which were solidly thru-bolted.

Sunsation's trailer-bound, \$65,000 base price is offset by an extensive list of standard features, and every one of the 6,200-pound Dominators are rigged and packed for serious



## PERFORMANCE

With the Aggressor's smoke still on Our minds, we were anxious to see how the 6,200-pound Dominator would book up. The newborn will take no back seat to its heralded sister: on its first pass, the Dominator leaped from repose to a 60-mph gallop in an incredible 9,6 seconds - one of the quickest performances we've seen in a boat of this size, from coast to coast! It is similarly spectacular at lesser increments, trotting to 40 mph in 6,4 seconds, and planing in 3,1 seconds,

The Sunsation cruises beautifully and effortlessly, with a lazy 2,00 rpm yielding 37 mph and 4,000 rpm cranking things up to a 66-mph clip. Drive and engine placement and selection could not have been sweeter in this well-balanced, excellent handling performance machine,

Few 32's can maneuver in the same league with the Sunsation at low rpm, and its uniformly controlled in all directions. The Dominator's is highly susceptible to tuning via trims and tabs, and we dialed it in instantly in

varying conditions. We were extremely impressed with the Sunsation's acceleration qualities throughout the MerCruiser's torque curve and with the way it handled our high-speed maneuvering drills, Exhibiting not a trace of rattle or vibration, even during demanding rough-water romps. the Sunsation is predictable and utterly stable on the high end, qualities that will endear it to safety-minded family boaters who maintain their taste for spray-rousing exhilaration,

Along the way to its impressive 73-

mph radar passes, the Dominator paused long enough to ace our bouy-lined turn course.

## THE BOTTOM LINE

When considering a high-performance investment of this magnitude (\$76,935 as tested), one must be sure that all the criteria for serious recreational open-water boating are met, Sunsation's Dominator follows in the tradition of the Aggressor in that regard, yielding superb acceleration, solid workmanship, and excellent handling manner



## SUNSATION 32' Dominator

### Specifications

Length .....32'  
 Beam ..... 96°  
 Bottom .....Deep-vee  
 Weight as tested ..... 6,200 lbs.  
 Base retail price, incl. trailer .....\$65,000  
 Price as tested..... \$76,935

### Standard Equipment

Mirage 25-pitch props, wheel-mounted trim, Kiekhaefer Zero-Effort controls, bow hatch, bolsters, dual-ram trim tabs, Ritchie compass, engine synchronizer, AM/FM stereo cassette, fiberglass sink counter, lighting package, recessed cleats, grab handles, grab railing, electric engine hatch, swim platform, drink holders, horn,

### Options on test boat

Wet bar (\$750), shore power (\$600), cockpit cover (\$500), trim tabs (\$400), stereo (\$350), depth finder (\$300), compass (\$150), cabin bead lights (\$100), engine synchronizer 9(\$80),

automatic bilge (\$75), Silent Choice exhaust (\$1,760), pump-out (\$150), microwave (\$400), external tie bar (\$380)

### Power/Drives

MerCruiser 454 Magnums (2, 365 hp ea), Bravo 1 drives

### Performance

Top speed, radar, .....73 mph  
 Planing time ..... 3,1 seconds  
 0-30.....5,6 seconds  
 0-40..... 6,6 seconds  
 0-60..... 9,6 seconds  
 0-TS.....15,6 seconds  
 Speed at 2500 rpm .....37 mph  
 Speed at 4000 rpm .....66 mph  
 Speed of 5000 rpm .....75 mph

### SUNSATION Boars

**5827 HESSEN**  
**Casco, MI 48064**  
**(313) 725-8020**