

Devin Troy

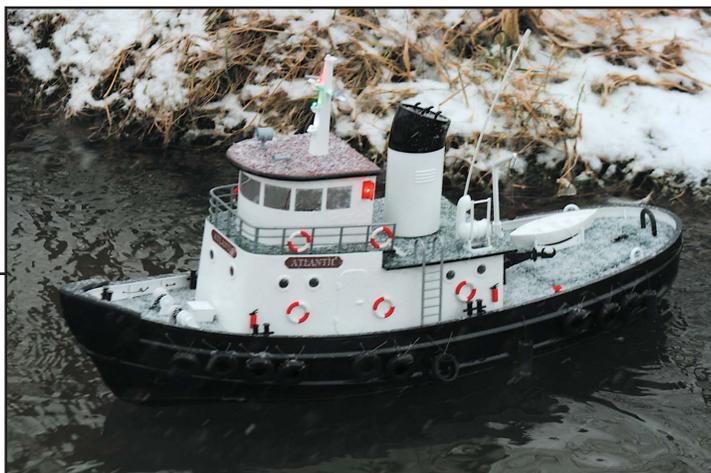
Boat Report

RTR Atlantic Harbor Tugboat

AquaCraft offers this beautiful RC working vessel in the RTR format.

AquaCraft by Hobbico has a new Atlantic Harbor Tugboat, and this model is a great addition to any boater's collection. Ready-to-run and electric powered, the Atlantic is based on a simple concept — a relaxing, great running scale boat with fun detail.

The Atlantic Harbor Tugboat is an extremely well-made model that really impressed me. The attention to detail is superb, and the tugboat's quality is more than satisfying. The cabin is beautifully painted, and it doubles as an easy-access hatch to all the onboard gear, complete with multiple levels, long-lasting LED's, hand rails, and stairs and ladders for a notably realistic effect. Some of my favorite features are the bumpers — more than a dozen real rubber tires and a quartet of foam fenders that come lashed to the sides, ready to protect the Atlantic's hull, and a molded rubber bumper that envelops the bow to mimic the bow protection of real a harbor tug.



The rear deck carries a lifeboat, complete with a moving davit and cargo hook on the stern to emphasize the Atlantic's realistic detailing, and the twin swivel anchors at each side of the bow complete the picture.

Getting the Atlantic Harbor Tugboat ready for the water is super easy. I used a DuraTrax 7.2-volt 1500mAh NiCd battery pack, charged with the recommended DuraTrax Piranha Peak Power AC/DC Charger. Two AA alkaline batteries are required to operate that Atlantic's running lights, and eight more are needed to power the transmitter.

The first step in the

Atlantic's quick preparation is to pull the cabin release forward, lift the front of the cabin and slide it forward. Next, connect the male and female lighting plugs and slip the two AA batteries into the battery holder. Turn the



Peak Charger, both by DuraTrax, for her Atlantic Harbor Tugboat. Battery fits into the large RC bay underneath the tug's removable cabin superstructure.



Specifications

- Length: 30.3 inches
- Beam: 9.8 inches
- Height: 19 inches
- RC: 2-channel AquaCraft pistol
- Motor: 550 brushed electric
- Running lights: LED
- Battery: 6-cell (not included)

RTR Features

- Factory-assembled tugboat
- Factory-installed motor & drive
- Factory-installed RC system
- Factory-installed running lights
- Hull, deck and cabin details
- Sturdy wooden boat stand
- 8-page operating manual



This tugboat's scale-like detailing is evident everywhere you look, from the two windlass units on the foredeck to the lifeboat and davit on the rear deck, to the 20 rubber tires and four foam bumpers that hang over the side of the Atlantic's one-piece fiberglass hull.

lighting switch to ON and the Atlantic's realistic lights illuminate, giving the tug a truly realistic edge. Next, run the receiver antenna through the antenna tube at the rear of the cabin. Use medium CA to glue the plastic mast and two radar pieces above the cabin for some great detailing.

After applying the supplied hook & loop material, insert the fully charged 6-cell battery pack onto the battery tray. Just plug the battery pack into the ESC's (Electronic Speed Control) battery connector and you've finished the Atlantic's preparation.

The radio's dual rate knob adjusts the steering rate by increasing or decreasing the rudder movement. Always remember to turn on the transmitter before your boat, and turn the boat off before your transmitter.

The Atlantic Harbor Tugboat is really fun to drive. It is smooth to handle and readily obeys commands. The Atlantic's turning radius is scale-like, its pace slow and its running steady, just like a tugboat should be. While my running space was severely limited due to wintry weather, the Atlantic pushed right through and performed superbly.

The Atlantic is a tugboat, and that's what makes it so much fun. Here I was, driving a realistically detailed tug, and it was just a blast. I could even picture using it later as a rescue boat, taking advantage of its rubber tires and calm persona to push my faster boats and my dad's seaplanes back to shore when they ran out of fuel or their batteries failed. I really love the Atlantic Harbor Tugboat, It is a great addition to anyone's collection. **HM**



Undaunted by wintry conditions, the Atlantic barrels through this February snowfall with all the authority of a proper working vessel.