



They call them "shadow boats", and they're the latest gizmo in the world of superyachts. What we're talking about is the "Yacht X Tender", hence the abbreviation YXT, displacement support vessels between 20 and 36 metres long used as extra space for a mother ship, where to stow things like extra-large tenders and all those toys and gadgets that are a must for today's superyacht.

With a support vessel the owner can double the space available and can thus basically take anything he wants with him on holiday, including a favourite car or a helicopter. But a support vessel, if suitably fitted out, can also be used as extra space for guests, or maybe have a fully professional galley, a spa or a gym.

Hence the idea of the YXT, "Yacht X Tender", proposed by the Dutch yard Lynx Yachts who, after having launched in 2014 the first YXT of 24 metres long, will bring the

"smaller" 20 metre version to the Monaco Yacht Show: the YXT 20m.

In steel, unlike the 24 that's in aluminium, the design of the YXT 20m obviously favours stowage, both inside and out. Its somewhat individual silhouette is similar to that of a typical tugboat, with a high bow and superstructure forward so as to allow for a 45m2 stern deck close to sea level, for the launch of the various "toys" the owner wants to take with him. Whilst larger toys are stored on deck, the YXT 20m also has 30m3 of hold for "smaller" toys. Obviously, moving loads around needs to be catered for on a support vessel, and indeed the YXT 20m has a main crane, to launch andrecover large toys, and a gangplank crane aft, that means the scoop on the stern can be used as additional space for RIBs, or whatever. The YXT 20m is driven by two 715 HP Cummins engines that allow it to travel at 14 knots with a range of 900 nm. The interior, by Franck Darnet Design, includes crew quarters for four in two cabins, each with head, plus a galley, laundry, and a number of other areas that the owner can choose to use accordingly.

For more information www.yachtxtender.com

