



PRESS RELEASE

Torqeedo Powers Solar Boat's Great Loop Trek

Crystal Lake, Ill. – Nov. 28, 2017 – Capt. Jim Greer and his solar boat *RA* returned to their home port in New Port Richey, Florida, Nov. 8, after completing a 7,200-mile voyage running totally on solar panels, batteries and an all-electric propulsion system provided by [Torqeedo](#).

The Great Loop voyage took *RA* from Florida up the East Coast, through the Great Lakes, down the Mississippi and across the Gulf of Mexico, completing the trip at Sand Bar Island, Florida. It was completed in two segments with a break in Waterford, New York. Greer said this was the first time a solar-powered all-electric boat has completed the Great Loop.

"With solar panels, batteries and Torqeedo electric motors we were able to complete our travel days without any use of fossil fuels or plugging into marina electric hook-ups when docked," said Greer. "We don't have a backup generator or power cords in case of emergency, as that's the adventure in it."

The custom vessel, designed and built by Greer, is a 48-ft. trimaran named for the sun god of ancient Egypt. It is propelled by a Torqeedo Cruise 10.0 kW motor and a pair of smaller Cruise 4.0 kW outboards. The electric motors draw power from two banks of batteries – one with four 12V AGM batteries in a 48V configuration, and the other with eight of the same batteries also in a 48V configuration. The batteries are recharged from the array of 20 245-W solar panels on the roof of the cabin.

Greer estimates that the cost of fuel for a similar size boat would have been at least \$10,000 for the Great Loop. "Not only did we save money on fuel, we achieved zero emissions, demonstrating that boating doesn't have to pollute the air or water with emissions from a combustion engine."

"The Torqeedo motors are real workhorses," said Greer. "They are amazingly efficient. We recorded a top speed of 10.7 mph at 7,300 W, but we normally ran at five mph to optimize battery capacity, typically putting in a 30-mile run per day."

The overall integrated solar-battery-motor system worked very well, according to Greer. "We could easily run all day on solar power when the weather was good. We could also run on the batteries for extended periods of time without sunlight. Our longest single run was 142 miles in 42 hours non-stop day and night crossing the Gulf of Mexico."

"Capt. Greer's pioneering solar-powered voyage provides a compelling validation of the efficiency and reliability of electric boats," said Steve Trkla, president and general manager of Torqeedo, Inc.

"No doubt about it, electric is the wave of the future," said Greer.

For high-resolution images, visit:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/dvvjr2biw8m2ev/AABMWKZPGs_if_K7-1uNqb_7a?dl=0,

About Torqeedo

Torqeedo is the market leader for electric mobility on the water. Founded in 2005 in Starnberg, the company develops and manufactures electric and hybrid drives from 0.5 to 100 kW for commercial applications and recreational use. Torqeedo products are characterized by an uncompromising high-tech focus, maximum efficiency and complete system integration. Torqeedo is part of the DEUTZ Group, one of the world's leading independent suppliers of diesel and natural gas engines.

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