

OF THE OUTDOORS:

ICAST 2010: What's New For Anglers

BY GARY HOWEY

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Each year, there's a convention where manufacturers of fishing related products get together to display their latest and greatest products.

The 2010 International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades or ICAST as it's commonly known was held in Las Vegas recently, giving manufacturers the opportunity to introduce what's new for the angler.

My daughter Cassie and I were on hand for this year's convention, spending three days working our way through isle after isle of new products.

This year, there were hundreds of new products with everything from fishing tackle to clothing and everything in between.

Here are a few of the items that caught our eye at this year's show.

Humminbird

Humminbird's 998c GPS Fishing System side imaging unit allows you to see everything that's below your boat and the water around it.

It's side imaging sonar uses a super thin beam, taking a sonar snapshot of the area not just below you, it can cover an area up to 240 feet to the left and right on either side of your boat, giving you an incredibly accurate picture of what's on the bottom and to either side of

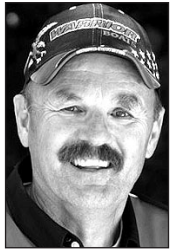
your boat.

Reading the screen is easy as the dark blue in the middle is what's directly below you and off to the left and right side are your side images.

The Humminbird 998c allows you to see trees, rock piles and any other object on the bottom just as if you were looking at a photograph as anything on the bottom or off to the side appear as they are.

When put together with the new LakeMaster chips, the Humminbird 998c will put you on the spot, helping to make locating structure and fish much quicker and easier.

For more information on this and other Humminbird products check out www.humminbird.com



Gary Howey

The Gear Grabbar

How many times have you changed lures, only to have the one you replaced stuck in carpet of your boat or thrown on the dash only to have it fall off as your running from point A to point B or wasted time looking for your pliers?

Well here's the answer to your prayers, Magnetic Marine Products Gear Grabbar is a new lure and tool holder that mounts in your boat allowing you to magnetically organize your lures and fishing tools.

It's an innovative product that holds your lures and pliers using powerful magnets that automatically grab onto your lure,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This magnetic lure and tool holder keeps your crankbaits, jigs and pliers within easy reach. The heavy duty magnets allow you to quickly attach and remove any lure or tool, keeping them in place, no matter what Mother Nature throws at you.

allowing you change lures quickly, giving you more time for fishing and less time trying to locate a lure or your pliers.

Simply place your lure or pliers next to the Gear Grabbar where the powerful magnets will grab. When you're ready to use the lure or pliers, the Gear Grabbar allows you to safely remove the lure, as there's no need to touch the hook.

For more information on the Gear Grabbar go to www.geargrabbar.com

SpinTech Hooks

After years of extensive research and engineering, SpinTech introduced the world's first rotating treble hook at this year's ICAST show. SpinTech's treble hook greatly reduces the chances of losing fish that

spit out the hook. When hooked, fish will fight aggressively, subjecting the lure and hook to a lot of stress.

Typical treble hooks attached to lures are fixed and will lock up in multiple positions and giving the fish extra leverage and torque, prying hooks out of fish's mouths. SpinTech's unique ability to rotate in either direction eliminates this problem completely.

The SpinTech rotating treble hook reposition itself spinning with the struggling fish, improving positive hook set while providing more control over the fish, no matter how hard they fight.

For more information on Spin Tech hooks check out www.basstarbaits.com.

camo for the angler, not camo to hide you from the fish, just great underwater patterns including your favorite species of fish whether it is bass, wall-eye, crappie or muskie.

These great looking patterns are also available on tackle bags, rods, reels, boating accessories as well as boat and vehicle wraps.

For more information on Fishouflage check out www.fishouflage.com

These are just a few of the new products introduced at ICAST, in the following weeks, we'll look at some of the other products that will make your next trip more enjoyable



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Humminbird 998c allows the angler to see exactly what's on the bottom as well as off to the side, showing trees as trees and any other object lying on the bottom or off to the side just like you'd see it in a photograph.

Fishouflage Clothing

If your looking for high quality, good-looking clothing that lets people know what your sport is, then check out Fishouflage Clothing.

Not your standard hunting camo, this is

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a former hunting and fishing guide and tournament angler and the host of Outdoorsmen Adventures TV that can be seen on Fox affiliates

and on-line at www.MtOutdoorTV.com for more information on the outdoors go to www.outdoorsmenadventures.com.

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