

CLEVELAND SHOW SET TO OPEN THURSDAY

The Progressive Mid-America Boat Show is set to open in Cleveland's International Exposition Center Thursday thru Sunday, January 18-21. Moreover, the show will be nearly 20 percent bigger this year thanks to the edition of a special show-within-the-show dubbed the "Fish NOW Expo."

"This new section significantly increases our fishing footprint," explains Bryan Ralston, show manager, "as it includes fishing exhibits and features from a sports show that has been scrubbed in the Cleveland market. After all, boaters fish and fishermen boat, so we're excited about this making up a single big show."

Ralston also anticipates a boost in attendance: "We hope many who attended the old sports show will now join the 40,000 boaters who converge on our boat show annually. And, we've added features like the Berkley Fish Tank; Dan Armitage's popular "Kids Fishing 411" Clinics; a new casting skills pond; and continual on-stage seminars by national and local tourney pros," he said.

The show will feature more than 450 power and sailboats ranging from kayaks to 50-foot motor yachts. The show, marking its 61st year, is produced by the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association.

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