



HR-SEA - A FISH CALLED HONDA

Ever seen a contemporary car turned fish tank?

Melbourne Aquarium introduces *HR-Sea, A Fish Called Honda*, an invention by Melbourne Aquarium and made possible by Honda and Kangan Batman TAFE. The car certainly represents a breakthrough way for fish to travel.

You could be excused for thinking it is the latest prop for a John Cleese movie, or James Bond's latest amphibious vehicle, but it definitely has to be seen to be believed!

Under the direction of Melbourne Aquarium Curator Craig Thorburn the project quickly proved to have engineering challenges. "Water proofing was our major concern as no one had water proofed a car from the inside, but that's where Melbourne Aquarium's experience in innovative water proofing techniques proved invaluable."

Using a Honda HRV, Kangan Batman TAFE was given the difficult task of providing a structure within the car capable of supporting 2,500 litres of water. Students and tutors completely stripped the car of its engine and transmission and made it absolutely water tight. Now weighing more than 3,500 kilos, *HR-Sea* is the brand new home of the legendary Barramundi and Northern Australian Saratoga fish.

"The project has never before been attempted in the Southern Hemisphere and is a significant automotive engineering achievement," Thorburn said.

HR-Sea was featured at this year's Melbourne International Motor Show and then returned to its permanent parking spot at Melbourne Aquarium.