

Maid of the Mist, State Parks, New York Power Authority & ABB partner to launch first all-electric vessels

Launch builds on sustainable tourism at world famous state park



Above, James V. Glynn on the new Maid of the Mist electric vessel that bears his name. Below, James and Christopher M. Glynn (Page 10 photos by Mark Williams Jr.)



The Maid of the Mist, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, New York Power Authority and ABB on Oct. 5 announced the Maid of the Mist launched the first two new all-electric, zero-emission passenger vessels in the U.S. Guests from around the world will now enjoy a greener ride when visiting the nation's oldest state park – and the iconic boat tour that has navigated the waters below Niagara Falls since 1846.

ABB, a pioneering technology leader in digital industries, supplied the comprehensive integrated power and propulsion solution for the newbuild vessels, which includes lithium-ion battery packs and an onshore charging system, enabling sustainable operation with maximum reliability.

Powered by ABB's zero-emission technology, the boats – named James V. Glynn and Nikola Tesla – are the first passenger vessels of their kind in the U.S. They will take

tourists to the heart of the Niagara Falls, undisturbed by engine noise or exhaust fumes. Batteries will be recharged for seven minutes after each trip to 80% capacity, allowing for maximum efficiency and battery life.

Maid of the Mist President Christopher M. Glynn said, "The launch of the James V. Glynn and Nikola Tesla, the first passenger vessels of their kind in the United States, will markedly enhance the visitor experience, providing a smooth, quiet trip to and from the base of Niagara Falls. With no engine noise, our guests will be amazed by the sounds of nature and the roar of the falls they will hear from the decks of our vessels."

"Niagara Falls is a wonder of the world unique to Western New York, and Maid of the Mist has given people from all walks of life an up-close look at its majesty for more than 150 years," Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul said. "Having this natural wonder in our backyard means we have a special responsibility as its steward and protecting it for future generations. This

new fleet of all-electric vessels will protect the health of our waterways and environment, and is another example of New York state building back better, smarter and greener."

The James V. Glynn is named in honor of the longtime Maid of the Mist chairman and CEO who is celebrating his 70th year with the corporation. The Nikola Tesla, meanwhile, is named for the Serbian-born engineer behind the design and construction of the world's first hydroelectric power plant, located in Niagara Falls.

The first guests will be able to board the new vessels at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6.

New York State Parks and New York Power Authority collaborated with the Maid of the Mist operators and ABB, a pioneering technology leader in digital industries, to make the electrification of the boats a reality. NYPA is providing clean, renewable hydropower for the operation of the vessels and has provided technical support on the electrification process. NYPA is going to also provide ongoing monitoring of electricity usage for the boats to ensure they are being energy-efficient and cost-effective. The new vessels are powered by high-capacity battery packs supplied and integrated by ABB. In addition to batteries, ABB

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