Can celebrates 30 years of business

and offers a new concept for the hob

In its 30th year of business, CAN attends the Caravan Salon 2018 with some new details on its cookers for recreational vehicles and an innovative cooking block: designed to slide out of its hatch thanks to dedicated runners and also be carried and repositioned to cook outdoors.

Words Giorgio Carpi

CAN presents the latest developments in its existing standard products at the Caravan Salon 2018, including certain enhanced details. Its best-selling linear three-burner hob and the triangular three-burner hob have been restyled, thanks to the introduction of new domestic-style grids, larger handles and new pan stands. All these stylistic characteristics and trends are a strong reference to the home furnishing industry, a design and stylistic concept that is increasingly also involving the recreational vehicle sector. Having said this, the new pull-out cooker system is CAN's main novelty.

"We came up with a particularly innovative cooking block because it is positioned on a patented system of slide-out runners, which can be installed extremely simply in a hatch - explains Lorenzo Bellini, general manager of CAN - *This allows anyone to cook outside the motorhome or caravan with a series of advantages. The first one is you avoid producing smoke, cooking odours or water vapour inside the passenger compartment, which is where you also sleep. In the summer, naturally, cooking inside is more inconvenient due to the heat. And let's not forget the sociable aspect, i.e. the pleasure of cooking together with family or friends out in the open air".*

This cooking block naturally also adapts to vans, a segment which constitutes a very big portion of CAN turnover. A steel hull - which can be customised with the two-burner monobloc hob and sink, or with the linear three-burner hob or the barbecue grill hob depending on the customer's specific requirements - slides on steel runners that are anchored to the vehicle floor.

"We wanted to develop and improve the idea, which is common practice in the American and Australian RV industry, of a slide-out external cooker. A genuine cooker which can be taken outside on warmer days and allows smoother movements. But we didn't stop there ... We created a system of fast fittings for water and gas connections and developed folding telescopic legs that allow you to detach the cooker from the runners and put it anywhere you want fully to enjoy the concept of travelling freely, even at lunch or dinner. Thanks to our quick couplings that do not require tools for the coupling and uncoupling of the regulators, the system be-

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comes extremely versatile, with the possibility of working like a traditional cooker, or a barbecue, and even a camping kitchenette". The system is fuelled using the piping from the installations on the vehicle when used on board or nearby. Vice-versa, thanks also to the legs, which are offered as an optional, the cooker can for instance be carried to the beach and fuelled using a normal camping cylinder. All the product versions are fitted with a practical carry handle, a storage drawer for cutlery or a chopping board. The variants are linear 3-burner or 2-burner combined with a sink or, in a more compact version for smaller vehicles, a 2-burner hob or 1-burner and sink. *"Another application that we imagine is to have this portable independent cooker of ours fitted as the only cooker on the van. In fact, it could be attached inside and used like a classic cooker. Detach it and place it on external runners to have it on the outside of the vehicle or even move it elsewhere ... maybe to a friend's motorhome ...* - concludes Lorenzo Bellini - *"Thanks to these particular characteristics, this cooker can be installed, or simply carried, on all types of vehicle, from recreational vehicles, which are what it was designed for, through to off-road vehicles and even boats. The product is ready, we are certain that it can make the end customer's experience even more comfortable, and we are in turn ready to tackle new challenges together with our customers' design departments."*

30 years of business

Despite the fact that CAN's actual launch into the RV industry only took place in 2008, the company's history has much more distant origins. Indeed, CAN was established in 1988 and quickly became the reference supplier in the boating industry, which is deeply rooted in the area around Lake Garda. About ten years ago, the founder's son, Lorenzo Bellini, caught a glimpse in the recreational vehicle sector of an opportunity for new business that helped CAN tackle the economic downturn and, indeed, transform it into a growth opportunity. *"We were able, at that time of strong decline in the boating industry, to guide all our know-how and production capacity towards a sector, the recreational vehicle sector, which was somewhat similar to what had up until that time constituted our industrial background"* - says Lorenzo Bellini - *"It was therefore quite natural for us to design the same type of products we were supplying the boating industry with for the motorhome and caravan sector as well. Here a small company like ours was even able to fit in between the bigger players because we were able to offer not just quality but also flexibility, accepting orders for small supplies, limited series or highly customised products"*. In the ten years that followed, right up to the present day, CAN has continued to grow significantly, without abandoning the boating sector which still makes up 40% of its turnover. With the recent opening of premises in the United States, in South Bend in the State of Indiana and in China, in Ningbo, CAN has consolidated its growth. *"Our goal, by opening new manufacturing plants in the United States and China, is to become one of the main players on those markets as well. Today, with its wealth of experience, CAN is a company guided by a young team. We are convinced that further major challenges are in store and we are ready, capable and structured to tackle them".*

Company Profile

CAN, which has been operating in the nautical market from three generations, is known for the reliability of its products, the quality of the materials and the concrete and innovative designs. Today, more than ever, the heart and mind of the company are represented by Mauro Bellini, supported by the more and more determining contribution of his sons, Lorenzo and Fabio who, together with their father, place their endless creativity and contagious passion at the service of the company in order to tie the CAN brand more and more to the world of stainless steel accessories. In 2009 CAN decided to take on a new challenge, introducing the CAMPER/CAMPING sector into its range of products, thereby entering new and stimulating markets. And so, the Bellini family has enriched and diversified its range of products with the usual care and attention. Always under the banner of quality and consistency.