

Sea Stories

Yacht Masters Northwest takes on unique challenge

The Pacific Northwest has an amazing number of marine businesses providing world class services for yacht owners and builders. Northwest mega-yacht builders rely on quality contractors for support for their large

production facility, was selected to fabricate the tempered glass. They specialize in molded glass used extensively in the superyacht market. Glasshape has developed "DuraShield Superyacht Glass". It is a laminated,



boat construction. Bringing several of these companies together can provide consortium to achieve results that a single company can't provide.

Recently Yacht Masters NW started a very interesting project. The owner of an 82' Horizon Motor Yacht wanted to enclose the aft cockpit in solid glass. What made this project noteworthy was the owner's desire to have the glass enclosure appear molded and not look like it had been added on. This presented several challenges. The aft piece of glass would be over eleven feet long and four feet high with both a curve and a radius. The molded glass corners would be four feet high and have a compounding radius. In addition, four doors would be needed to provide access and ventilation. All of which would be supported with hidden stainless mullions. The tolerances and fitting would be critical. Custom fiberglass work would be necessary and the stainless supports would need to be fabricated and installed to exacting standards to support the glass.

Rob Huston, operations manager at Yacht Masters, brought several northwest companies together for this project. Glasshape, a New Zealand company with a Seattle office and

tempered glass that is among the safest, most tested and highest performing marine glass in the world.

Ian Gracy, owner of Torrid Yacht, created 3D drawings necessary for the stainless steel mullion fabrication. Ian uses an onsite 3D laser scanner which produces the 3D dimensions. The 3D dimensions are transferred to Rhino 3D modeling software and are accurate to 100th of an inch. These drawings are sent to CNC machines to create parts more accurately and less expensively than traditional methods would entail.

To help with the design and assure the structural integrity, Frank Wohl, a marine engineer brought his years of expertise to the team. Frank has drawn and engineered major superyachts built around the world. Frank also provided the artistry to transfer the mechanical drawings into realistic images for the owners to approve.

Several fiberglass areas were modified and repaired. Since it was winter, a shrink wrapped enclosure was constructed around the aft portion of the vessel to allow work to progress in any weather condition. Seattle based Pacific Fiberglass was contracted to handle the fiberglass modifications



and were able to work through the winter rains and windstorms.

The glass was designed to be supported by stainless steel mullions which would be invisible from the outside. White Fab Metal Fabrication from Kent Washington took the 3D drawings and turned the drawings into the metal supports. The stainless steel mullions were fabricated, fit on the vessel, polished, and then permanently installed.

After the stainless supporting mullions were installed, Glasshape used 3D laser measurement to create new drawings showing exactly where the glass would be fit. These drawings were sent to Glasshape's Seattle and

New Zealand's fabrication facilities where the laminated and tempered glass panels and corners were constructed and shipped back for installation.

The completion of the project is scheduled for March.

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Outer Reef Yachts Announces US West Coast Company Growth Initiative

Outer Reef Yachts, a world leader in design, construction and sale of long range motoryachts, is proud to announce a recent company growth initiative on the West Coast of the United States. The crux of this growth initiative includes additional sales representation via a newly formed partnership with established yacht brokerage, Irwin Yacht Sales. Irwin Yacht Sales will manage new boat sales and services for Outer Reef, a welcomed addition to their current sales and service operation, due to increasing regional demand for quality long range motoryachts. Outer Reef Yachts will continue to directly manage the Outer Reef brokerage arm of their business.

Jeff Druek, President and CEO of Outer Reef Yachts stated, "The decision to increase our sales representation on the West Coast, through a partnership agreement with Irwin Yacht Sales, was made due to healthy market growth the company has experienced in this region over the past few years. Part of this growth is due to the successful launch of our new Outer Reef Trident Series. Both the Outer Reef Classic Series, as well as the new Trident Series, are perfect solutions for yachtsmen looking to cruise some of the most diverse and scenic cruising grounds in the world, while benefitting from Outer Reef's

bluewater cruising efficiency, quality, and safety."

Over the years, Outer Reef Yachts has built a sales and service footprint in the Pacific Northwest and is positioned for continued growth in new and used yacht sales. Outer Reef's west coast offices will continue to be conveniently located on Lake Union - the heart of Seattle's yachting community.

Outer Reef's sales team will be attending the Seattle Boat Show in January 2015, as well as various boat shows worldwide.

For more information on a schedule of events as well as yachts available, please contact Outer Reef Yachts at info@outerreefyachts.com or visit: www.outerreefyachts.com.

