# European Coatbuilder

www.europeanboatbuilder.net



# EUROPEAN Apr/May 2009 No 37 OCATO LIST CONTROLLED TO CONT

Design, processes and techniques in perspective

www.europeanboatbuilder.net

"Air conditioning is evolving. Sunseeker never sees it as an afterthought"

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#### **BATTLING BAVARIA**

Taking on the downturn with extra investment and new models

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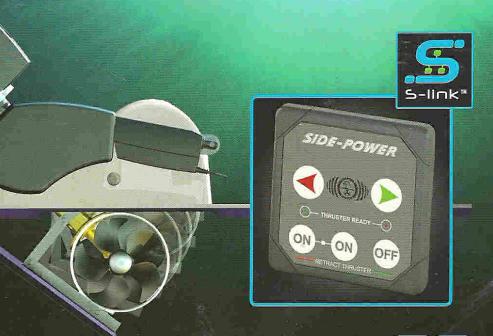
#### YARD INSIGHT

- Ribcraft commit to advanced cutting Page 22
- Sarnico's production breakthroughs Page 32

# Experience & Innovation

Side-Power introduces the SR-series retractable thrusters - the first retractable thrusters to feature a two-way digital communication system.

The S-link control panel incorporates a unique feedback system, reporting the status of thruster operation continuously - giving you confidence by control!



Confidence by Control

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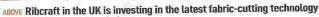


SIDE-POWER Thruster Systems

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EB's Technical
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A leading marine
journalist, Tony is
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consultant for the

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A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON DESIGN, PROCESSES AND TECHNIQUES

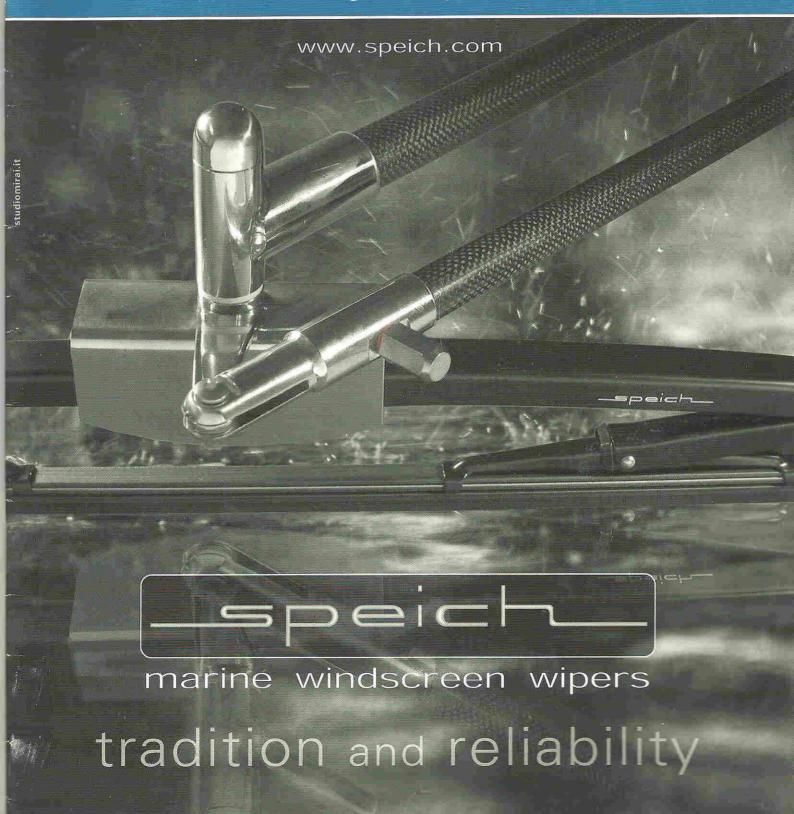
## European 1002 to UIII der

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### LINSSEN YACHTS

The secrets of long-term displacement success





Customer loyalty and advanced production techniques mean Dutch displacement yard Linssen Yachts is untroubled by the downturn.

#### **REGULARS**

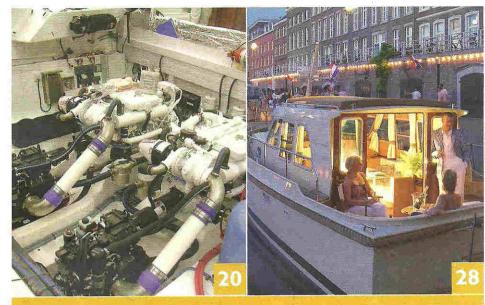
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#### 12 CODE BREAKERS

Keeping up with boatbuilding regulations worldwide can be daunting for most builders, but now — from Holland — comes a new speedy and comprehensive aid.

#### 16 TRACK RECORD

After his advanced gas monitors won two prestigious awards at METS and IBEX, Shane Faulkhead's company EVRSafe has had to battle hard to keep up with demand.

#### 19 JOYSTICK MANOEUVRING

ZF Marine has developed a propulsion control system for shaft drive boats that promises to offer the same low speed manoeuvring benefits as the latest generation of pod drives.

#### 20 ZEUS DRIVE FOR SEALINE

The first European series-built boat specifically designed for Zeus pod drive propulsion is now in full production at UK builder Sealine.

#### 24 SPEED STRIPS

CJR Propellers has teamed up with former direct competitor VEEM to bring a remarkable new propulsion system to the European market — the Interceptor Propeller System.

#### 28 COVER STORY: STEEL THE SHOW

Fresh from the Linssen 'in-house' boat show in November, steel motoryacht builder Linssen Yachts has a remarkably healthy order book — despite the worldwide recession.

#### **38 HIGH MODULUS AT 30**

New Zealand-based composite manufacturer High Modulus has been a major influence on boatbuilding engineering for 30 years. CEO Richard Downs-Honey tell us why.

#### **44 SEATEC RETURNS**

The seventh international exhibition of technology, subcontracting and design for boats, yachts and ships — Seatec — continues to build on its previous successes.

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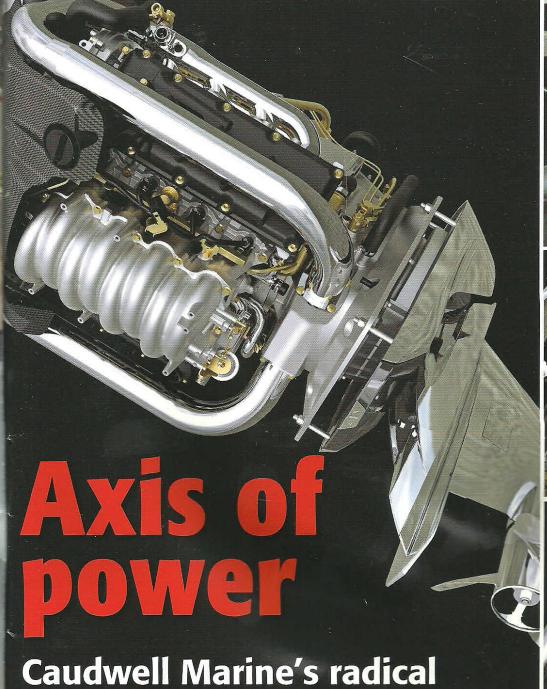
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Morgan Powerboats

Classic with a twist

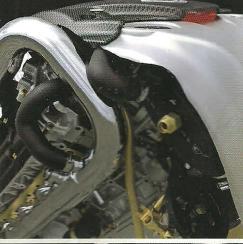
**Power play**Yanmar's new sterndrive

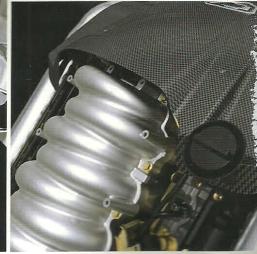
**Driving force**ZF takes on Zeus and IPS



new propulsion system







PLUS – THE PROS AND CONS OF CLOSED MOULDING RESIN INFUSION



Caudwell Marine backer, billionaire John Caudwell and the radical new Axis Drive.

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Alexis Lepoutre of Navi Line talks to Bob Greenwood about the advantages of using subcontractors as recession bites.

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#### 13 GOOD VIBRATIONS

Two UK companies have entered the market with a new method of combating the ageold, and expensive, problem of fouling — ultrasound.

#### **16 POWER STEERING**

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#### 21 DRIVING AMBITION

Yanmar's new ZT350 sterndrive leg looks set to open up the sterdrive market, offering boatbuilders a genuine alternative to CMD and Volvo Penta systems.

#### 22 MORGAN - THE START OF SOMETHING BIG?

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#### **42 RESIN INFUSION**

As boatbuilders turn to closed-moulding resin infusion for consistent product quality at reduced cost, EB looks at the pros and cons of the process.

#### **50 COVER STORY: CAUDWELL MARINE**

A South African engineer has joined forces with a British billionaire to create a radical new drive system that could alter the way the industry views engine and gearbox configurations.

#### **58 POD BREAKOUT**

ZF Marine's new 2500 and 2800 drives looks set to change the face of the pod drive market as we know it.

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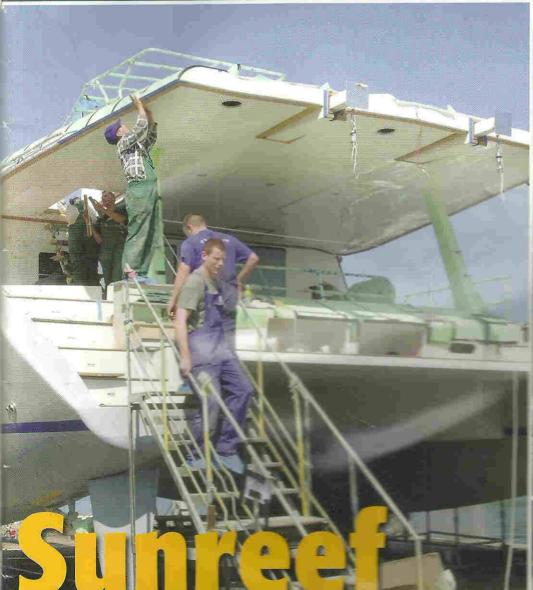
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Garmin
Intelligent navigation

**Hybrid propulsion**Mochi Long Range 23

**Exturn**Bolt-on thrusters



The French-owned cat builder finding success

in the shipyards of Poland







PLUS INCORPORATING DIGITAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - FULL REPORT



Sunreef Yachts — Cruising catamarans built by the French in Poland's historic shipyards.

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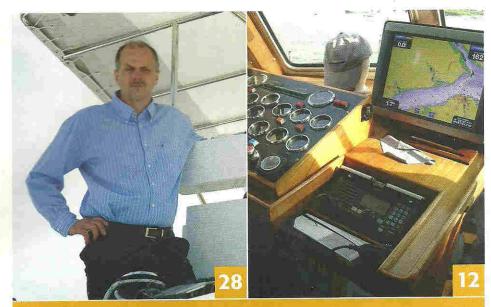
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Raimo Sonninen of Bella-Veneet
talks to Tony Jones about facing

up to the economic downturn

European Boatbuilder is published to serve the interests of professionals involved with the design and construction of pleasure boats and small commercial craft. The magazine also focuses on materials, components, tools and processes.



#### **FEATURES**

#### 12 BLACK BOXES BLACKBALLED

Garmin has returned to the marine market with a vengeance and is now offering a full suite of easy to fit instruments with 'intelligent' touch-screen displays.

#### 20 BACK TO THE FUTURE

A Swedish entrepreneur is about to launch a new classic based on the minimalist retro styling of the 1950s. His stylish new Golden Cut will be a wooden boat with a GRP hull.

#### **22 BOLT-ON THRUSTER**

Marinno from Austria has developed a new external thruster which, it claims, has all the power of an integral unit with the added attraction of time and cost savings.

#### **24 SILENT RUNNING**

Hybrid propulsion for production craft has come a little step closer with a new drive system that has been installed on Ferretti's latest expedition yacht the Mochi Long Range 23.

### 28 COVER STORY: SUNREEF YACHTS PIONEERING POLE CATS

Cdansk is helping a French-owned builder find success through a series of cruising flybridge catamarans starting at 18m (60ft) with intentions to grow to 45m (148ft).

#### **46 IBEX PREVIEW**

What to expect from the biggest show of the year, along with the latest news and details.

#### **50 HIGH-WIRE ACT**

Moving from electrical to digital boat management for all kinds of boats is possible right now. So why are the majority of builders still reluctant to use the systems that have helped to revolutionise the automotive industry?

A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON DESIGN, PROCESSES AND TECHNIQUES

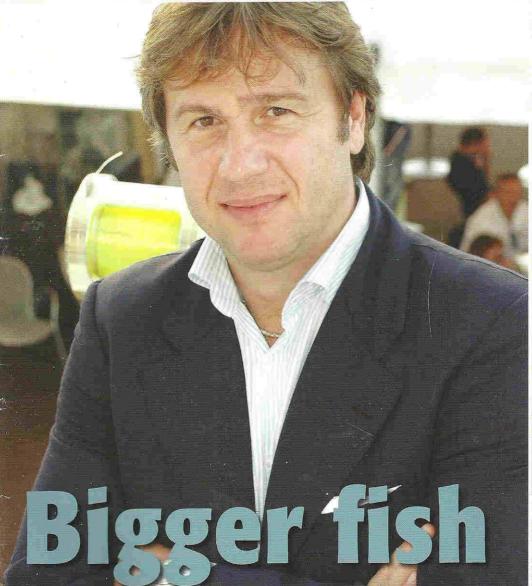
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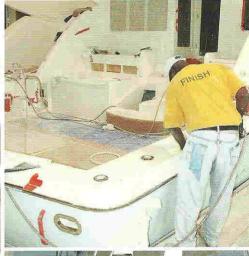
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**Alphacam** Software at Sunseeker **Tecnorib**Goes for digital switching

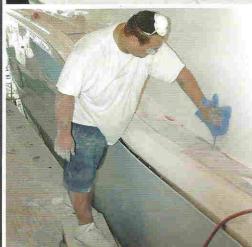
**Nanotubes**The future of antifouling?



Giovanni Vacchi reveals Bertram Yacht's global development strategy









#### **COVER STORY**

Bertram Yachts — Europe's biggest builder, the Ferretti Group, is finding success with one of the most famous brands in the US market.

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Milan van den Berg
CEO of Dehler – the new
owner of ETAP Yachting

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#### 14 PRECISION DECISION

Leading boatbuilder Sunseeker is using the latest CAD and CNC software from Alphacam to maximise and maintain the speed and quality of it production lines in the UK.

#### 16 GOOD WOOD?

With Burmese teak becoming increasingly difficult to get hold of, new moves are being made to open up alternative supplies of sustainable, ethically produced, and equally high-quality teak timber from the forests of the Southern Sudan.

#### 18 BIO-DIVERSITY, BIO-ADVERSITY

The EU is now insisting on the implementation of mandatory biofuel regulations by 2010. EB investigates how future legislation — and engine technology — will affect the market.

#### **20 BREAKING STORY**

Boatbuilders may be more responsible than they realise for the eventual recycling of their products. *EB* examines the latest cost assessments and European initiatives.

#### 24 COVER STORY BERTRAM YACHTS: BIGGER FISH

Evolving sports-fishing designs into more family-friendly cruising craft is helping US builder Bertram Yacht — owned by Italy's Ferretti Group — to improve its export development strategy at a time when the domestic market continues to be sluggish.

#### **40 SMOOTH OPERATORS**

The future of antifouling systems and structural strengthening are about to be revolutionised by the impact of new technology — the use of carbon 'nanotubes'.

#### 44 PZERO AND THE VALUE OF PI

Italian builder Tecnorib has teamed up with tyre giant Pirelli to produce a stunning new craft that incorportates a digital switching system that replaces traditional electromechanical switches and circuit breakers.

## European 1002tbulled

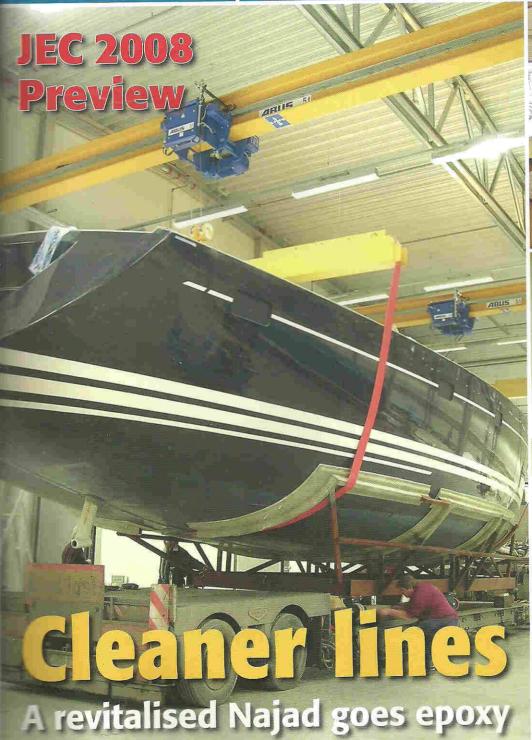
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Garry Hoyt
The 'Balanced Rig'

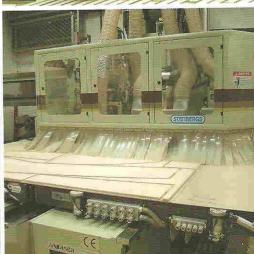
**Seakeeper**Gyro-stabilizer

Rampf Tooling
And a Fabio Buzzi cat









PLUS WE TAKE AT LOOK AT FAIRLINE BOATS' RETAIL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES



#### **COVER STORY**

Najad — Sweden's iconic sailing cruiser brand is shaking off its traditional image by investing in new designs and modern construction methods.

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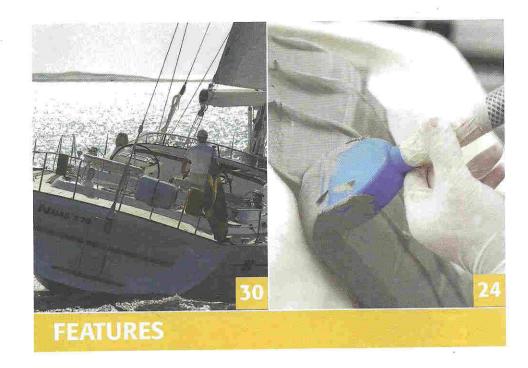
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Sleipner/Side-Power

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APRIL/MAY 2008 COVER STORY: BERTRAM, USA



#### 16 ROLL ON, ROLL OFF

US company Seakeeper has come up with a gyro-stabilizer that is claimed to rival Mitsubishi's ARG systems. It was developed in association with Azimut Yachts.

#### 20 QUICK JOB

Italy's FB Design recently made use of Rampf Tooling's CP-6070 modelling paste.

#### 22 POINT THE WAY

Proliner digital-measuring systems make life easier.

#### 24 A GOOD PASTING

A new seamless modelling paste is put to good effect at El-Bo Produktion.

#### **26 BALANCING ACT**

The founder of Freedom Yachts, Garry Hoyt, has come up with another new easy-sail rig.

#### 28 FEELING THE HEAT

Why SteamWood decks are gaining popularity in Scandinavia.

### **30 COVER STORY NAJAD: CLEANER LINES**

Dutch entrepreneurs Alfred and Marianne van Wincoop have spent three years updating Sweden's distinguished sail cruiser brand Najad. Bob Greenwood reports on an image overhaul backed by bold ideas and ambitious investment.

#### **50 COMPOSITES CENTRAL**

A look at April's JEC Composites Show 2008, Paris.

#### 54 ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Fairline is pressuring its dealers worldwide to deliver a consistent 'brand experience'.

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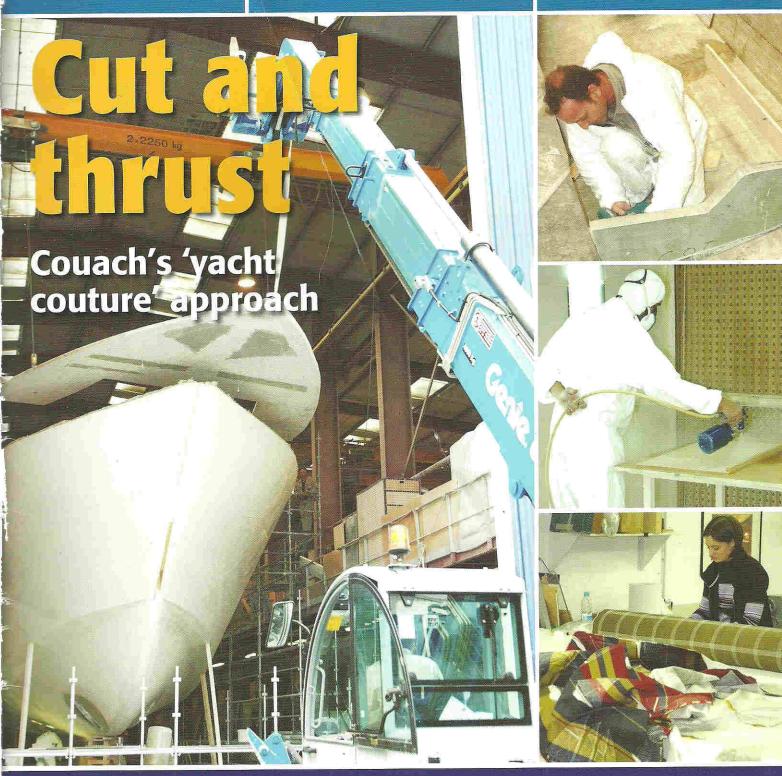
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**Raymarine**The G Series

**Bolidt**Esthec decking

**Williams**Performance tenders





#### **COVER STORY**

**Couach** — The 'yacht couture' motoryacht builder.

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Beschier Kik
— CEO, Vetus

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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2008 COVER STORY: NAJAD, SWEDEN



#### 14 UNNATURAL DESIRE

Bolidt's Esthec, a new synthetic decking material, looks like being a real alternative to teak.

#### 16 SHOW PREVIEW: SEATEC 2008

With more than 800 exhibitors occupying four industry sector pavilions and 34,000m<sup>2</sup> of display space, Italy's Seatec is reinforcing its position as an industry show of real influence.

### 20 COVER STORY COUACH YACHTS: CUT AND THRUST

Promoting its capabilities as 'yacht couture', Couach, France's only significant big-motoryacht builder, continues to up its game. Beyond its existing planing range than extends from 19.5m-37m (64ft-121ft), it is also busy working on a new 42m-50m (138ft-164ft) Series, the first 50m orders of which are already well in hand. Phil Draper reports.

#### **39 G FORCE**

Raymarine's new G-Series displays are brighter and clearer than their forerunners and pack maximum display functions into minimum helm space. The system includes high-definition digital radar and sounding that's claimed to double the performance of analogue systems. Bob Greenwood went to Italy to see it in action.

#### **44 YOUNG PRETENDER**

Four years ago, no one had heard of Williams Performance Tenders. Now, from a small village on the outskirts of Oxford, UK, this young specialist builder of jet-driven RIBs has grabbed the attention of Europe's leading builders of production motoryachts to the point where is now delivering more than 700 units a year. How did this happen?

Bob Greenwood reports.



A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON DESIGN, PRUCESSES AND TECHNIQUES

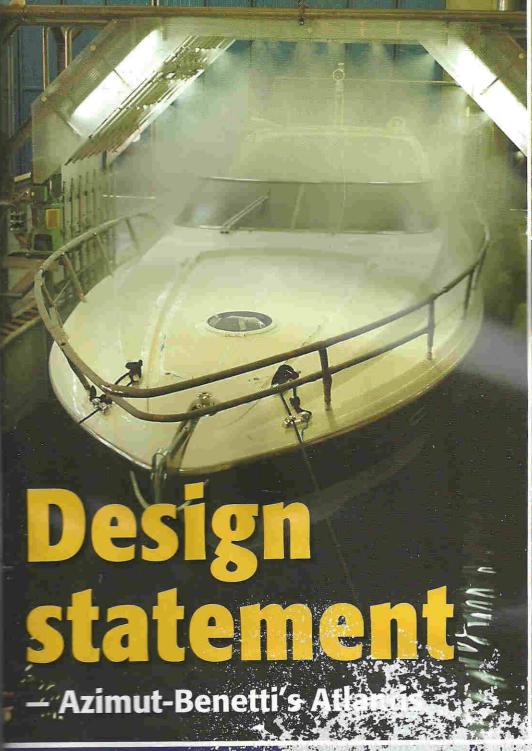
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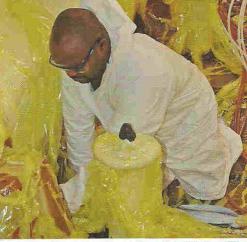
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Flexitab **Motoryacht Flexidrives**  SR Composites/Ashland Sprayomer vacuum bagging

Royal Tender Waterborne limos









PLUS WE CHECK OUT RIB



The **Atlantis** facility near Piacenza, Italy, is sufficiently progressive to make use of a gelcoat-spraying robot and vacuum infusion techniques for its latest hulls.

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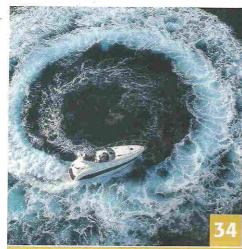
84 BACKLOG COLUMN
Ben Hall

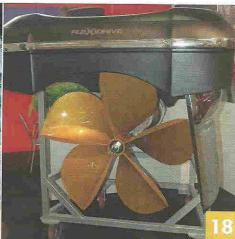
Hall Spars & Rigging's vice-president

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DECEMBER 2007/JANUARY 2008 COVER STORY: COUACH YACHTS





#### FEATURES

#### 18 SAME STING, LESS TAIL

Italian company Flexitab has come up with a big-boat version of its Flexidrive system, the Power. 2000. The system deserves to do well as it not only offers top-end surface-piercing performance, but also slow-speed manoeuvrability, smooth transmission, and a lot less rooster-tail ostentation than some of the competition. Turkish builder Allen Yacht looks like being the first to install a twin-drive system aboard its new Metaphor 68 hardtop express. Phil Draper reports.

#### 22 IT'S IN THE BAG

US laminate system specialist SR Composites has come up with Sprayomer, a spray-on, light-but-durable vacuum-bagging system that is re-useable. There is a lot going for it, as we discovered at an IBEX 2007 demonstration.

#### **26 STRETCHING OUT**

Danish bulicer Royal Tender is pushing the boundaries in a number of ways with its range of supervacht tenders.

### 30 SHOW PREVIEW: METS 2007 YET ANOTHER BLOCKBUSTER!

The world's biggest boating industry trade show reaches its 20th edition with what promises to be its biggest edition yet, as Bob Greenwood reports.

### 34 COVER STORY Design statement

When Azimut-Benetti acquired Piacenza-based Gobbi six years ago, it did so with a clear vision – not for the brand or model portfolio, but for the yard itself. Since then its series-building capabilities have been redirected away from the mainstream sportsboat scene toward a whole new range of bigger high-end sportscruisers and hardtop express models marketed under the brand Atlantis. Phil Draper reports.

#### **58 CASH INJECTION**

Zodiac is reinforcing its position as the world's largest producer of inflatables and RIEs with increased investment in RTM (resin transfer moulding) techniques at its Saint Jean d'Illac piant just outside Bordeaux. Bob Greenwood investigates.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON DESIGN, PROCESSES AND TECHNIQUES

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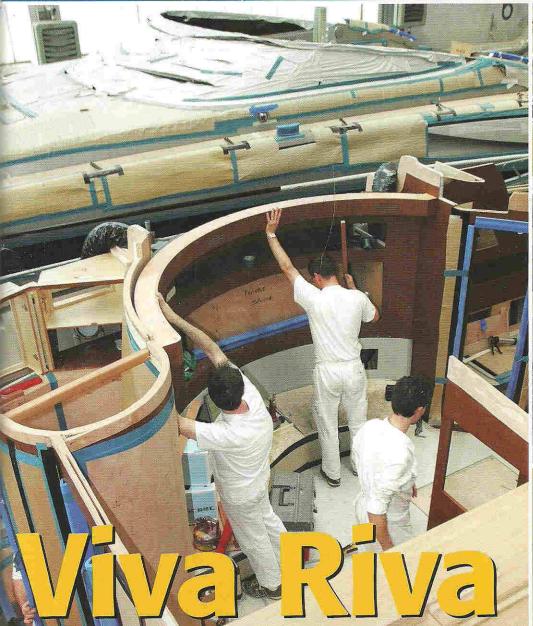
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**Sealine**Reorganisation

Ferretti

**Fora Marine**Plywood sailboats

**BigHead**Poppit system







PLUS WE COMPARE NOTES ON EUROPE'S TOP 10 PRODUCTION BOATBUILDERS...

Group nurturing...



**Riva SpA** — Thriving once again under the Ferretti Group umbrella.

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 Sales director at DSM Composites

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#### **FEATURES**

#### 12 GREEN POWER

A recently delivered Moorings 4300 sailing cat built by Robertson & Caine in South Africa sports an efficient diesel-electric propulsion installation from on-board power specialist Glacier Bay. And more are planned.

#### 14 DOWN AND OUT

CRN's project 121, the 54m (177ft) steel/aluminium motoryacht Rasha, due to launch later this year, will feature a fold-down balcony in her owner's cabin.

#### 16 RUNNING ON RAILS

American motorboat builder Glacier Bay Catamarans has developed some hull-rail appendages for its power-cat cruisers that reduce roll and pitching in rough seas, as well as make for a drier, softer ride.

#### 18 PANEL BEATING

British company BigHead's new Poppit panel-fastening system offers to revolutionise the way boatbuilders handle wall panels and headlinings.

#### 20 COVER STORY: Viva Riva

Italian motorboat and motoryacht builder Riva, now under the inspired wing of the Ferretti Group, is back where it belongs — in the limelight and delivering superior products. Phil Draper reports.

#### 38 EUROPE'S TOP 10: PRODUCTION BOATBUILDERS

Europe's Top 10 production boatbuilding operations continue to go from strength to strength. Phil Draper and Bob Greenwood report.

#### **54 LESS IS MORE**

When car manufacturing executive Stephen Coultate took over the helm of UK powercruiser builder Sealine International a year ago, it didn't take him long to work out his priorities. A lean manufacturing implementation programme was top of the list, as Bob Greenwood reports.

#### **58 TRADITIONAL PREMIUM**

French builder Fora Marine has reinvented series building in plywood as viable modern alternative to the GRP. Bob Greenwood reports.

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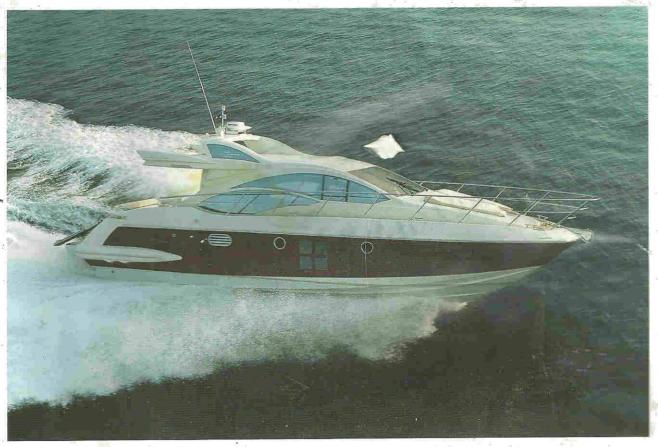
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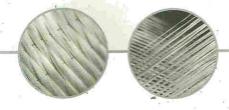
### **FAIRLINE**

Reaping the benefits of lean manufacturing...

Out of the ordinary boat.



Out of the ordinary reinforcement.



Small fibers. Big difference.

Ahlstrom is renowned for its advanced products and make Azimut always delivers the utmost in innovation and expectations are suppliers. The drive to excel marks the coordinates, where sense of beauty and skilled crafts are high performance glass reinforcements into one to be a supplied to the world.

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Frene Scar Batter

- Warne notices consider

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COVER STORY:
AZIMUT-BENETTI'S
ATLANTIS OPERATION



#### 14 Pod casts

Cummins MerCruiser Diesel has begun delivering the first few pre-production Zeus units. Phil Draper reports.

#### 16 Quiet revolution

Fischer Panda now offers a complete diesel-electric propulsion package.

#### 18 Brake horsepower

American company PMC industries has not only developed a useful deceleration light kit for personal watercraft, but also an actual brake system, albeit one still at the prototype stand. Phil Draper reports.

### 20 COVER STORY FAIRLINE BOATS: Charted course

British motorcruiser and motoryacht builder Fairline Boats is only halfway into a three-year lean-manufacturing implementation, but already the pay-off is considerable. Sales and profits continue to climb, while the establishment remains the same. Phil Draper reports.

#### 38 Furniture men

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burned in its fitted joinery, Navi Line is now taking the message abroad.

Common books at an industrialised boat furniture manufacturing operation that is claimed be unque and finds out what it offers its customers, and in particular what it has done for heavy distance.

#### 52 The sky's the limit

Having developed hard and soft tops for most of the world's prestige car brands, Italian specialist engineering company OPAC started 10 years ago to apply its expertise to the semi-production/custom end of the recreational marine industry. Bob Greenwood found out why the company is now first choice for many of the top power and sailing cruiser builders wanting to offer their customers the added luxury of open-top yachting.

#### 58 Show Preview: JEC 2007 The best yet?

When it opens in Paris on April 3, the 2007 JEC Composites Show will be the biggest and most interactive edition to date. For the marine section there promises to be more of interest than ever.