

SuperYacht

industry



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Utopian Design

BENETTI'S OCEAN PARADISE

German Teamwork

BUILDING GREAT SUPERYACHTS



The 73m Mogambo, built by Deutsche Yachten member, Nobiskrug.

Photo courtesy of Nobiskrug

DEUTSCHE YACHTEN BUILDS GREAT SUPERYACHTS

German TEAMWORK

COOPERATION IS NO MERE LIP SERVICE FOR THE DEUTSCHE YACHTEN – IT'S A FOUNDING PRINCIPLE. AFTER RETURNING from FLIBS in Fort Lauderdale, the Managing Director of the association's umbrella group, Claus-Ehlert Meyer was keen to extol the international exploits of the Deutsche Yachten. At the recent METS show in Amsterdam, Mr Meyer enthused over the group's results and performances and gave SYI's Tom Scott an inside perspective. Read on to discover more about seven of the stand-out companies of the Deutsche Yachten group.

WORDS BY TOM SCOTT

Deutsche Yachten – Superyacht Germany is a working group of more than 60 companies involved in the German superyacht industry. The group operates within the German Boat and Shipbuilders Association (DBSV) which has represented Germany's maritime industry for 55 years.

Established 13 years ago the Deutsche Yachten group consists of yacht builders and the numerous associated suppliers and service providers. "German yacht-building was forced to organise so that the massive potential available at businesses and one-man companies alike may be internationally communicated in this rather difficult and quite special market," explains DBSV President Torsten Conradi. "The many groups that were founded in other countries after our group was established demonstrate that this was the right route to take."

Made in Germany

All member companies have extensive experience in the superyacht sector – their products bear the 'Made in Germany' label that stands for top technical performances, functionality and clear design. The strict acceptance rules of the association also ensure the quality of the delivered product. Mr Conradi continues, "'Made in Germany' stands for something that isn't available just anywhere." In a highly specialised world, the association's joint expertise carries considerable weight. Customers can be certain that they are dealing with competent and experienced professionals.

Efficient Network

The strengths of the Deutsche Yachten association stem from its members' professionalism and teamwork. The transfer of know-how, the development of ideas and the creation of networks is a natural progression >>

1 | *Glass for Design & Security*

Glass is an important design feature on modern superyachts. Its transparency provides a room with more openness and a feeling of space. One of the world's leading specialists in glazing products for the yacht industry is Tilse, a company with almost 40 years of experience in the design and worldwide installation of top notch glass products.

At the core of Tilse's product range is their Formglas Spezial – a compound security glass made of two or more chemically tempered panes bonded with a special cast resin. The high-grade UV and seawater-proof resin ensures excellent optical quality and lasting protection. It is characterised by full UV absorption without yellowing or ageing along with moisture resistance and continuous heat resistance from -40 to +100°C without loss of adhesion. Glass is not only important in the design – it also offers security. Formglas Spezial can be used in simple compound safety glass and special bullet-proof glass.

Constantly innovating, Tilse have developed a compound system of safety glazing for hull windows and portlights – the Formglas Spezial CS. This consists of two independent safety glazing panes which are held together by a specially reinforced and shock resistant spacer. The compound system has been engineered and built to withstand extreme pressure and impact forces.

Microclear is a heated glass system – a heating foil between the layers of Formglas Spezial is the solution for all glazing which must not ice or steam up. For superyacht owners who wish for privacy on demand – Solardim is the right choice. This is a transparent glass with an incorporated fluid crystal foil. The glass can be controlled electrically from clear to opaque.

i. www.tilse.com



Photo courtesy of Oceanco B.V.

2 | *Carbon Fibre Yacht Components*

Founded in 1986 by Jan Reiners, multiplex specialises in manufacturing lightweight constructions from composite materials for the maritime industry. Shipbuilding has a long history in his family – back in 1863 his ancestors ran a small shipyard north of Bremen. Reiners' passion for boats combined with his knowledge of carbon fibre as a raw material was the start of something extraordinary – he is a pioneer of carbon fibre boarding systems. As such, the company has held a strong presence in the market for more than 25 years.

The benefits of using carbon fibre in the superyacht industry lie in its strength and ultra-lightweight properties. Moreover it is a durable and non-corrosive construction material that comes from environmentally friendly sources.

Located next to the Lürssen and Abeking & Rasmussen yards in Bremen, multiplex has developed into a market leader. Today, multiplex products are based on a production method that specialises in vacuum injection technology. Not only suitable for the fabrication of boarding systems – custom productions such as gangways, sun awnings and multiguards and other structural parts are also part of the portfolio of services. All products are developed and engineered in-house.

"All that we have produced, gets copied by competitors within a very short time," Mr Reiners says. "There is no time to slow down, if you want to be the torch bearer in the future."

i. www.multiplexgmbh.com



Photo courtesy of Multiplex GmbH

from this teamwork. It is these strengths that enable the German superyacht industry to build some of the best yachts in the world. This business network, located in a country famed for its efficiency, portrays a potent combination of technical, engineering and design skills. "Business particularly benefits from the extraordinarily good and well-organised infrastructure and the quality of executives here," concludes Mr Conradi.

Meeting Deutsche Yachten

The Deutsche Yachten group and their members can be found at all the significant superyacht related trade fairs – Düsseldorf,

Monaco, Dubai, Fort Lauderdale and Hamburg. During the recent METS trade show in Amsterdam the reality of the Deutsche Yachten philosophy of teamwork was on full display in the German Pavilion. Mr Meyer highlighted a positively vibrant group of companies that knew each other's fortés just as well as their own. To become a member of the group, a company must show willingness to cooperate with one another – this was clearly to be seen. The sum of the whole Deutsche Yachten group is undoubtedly greater than its individual parts put together.

i. www.dbsv.de



Photo courtesy of Horizon Yachts



Photo courtesy of Morten Strauch

The Schnaase Team from top left to bottom right: Maron Jedzini, Birgit Schnaase, Tatum Peters, Anne Wolff.

3 | *Elegant Interior Design*

From the initial sketches through to advice on shipyard selection or a full bid invitation to the completion of turnkey projects, Schnaase Interior Design offers a unique attention to detail that creates new perspectives and living concepts. Based in Hamburg, Birgit Schnaase and her team have been designing interiors for yachts and ships of every size for the past 18 years. Her work is always tailored to the individual preferences of her clients – the design solutions growing out of a collaborative dialogue with the owner.

The elegant choice of materials and refined craftsmanship mirrors the owner's personal taste. Sophisticated lighting concepts combined with stylish features produce personal and luxurious interiors. Whether a new delivery or a dated yacht receiving a cosmetic overhaul, the result is always exceptional.

One recent project completed by Ms Schnaase and her team is the 45m Polaris built by Taiwan-based Horizon Yachts. This ice-class expedition yacht has a covered aft main deck with dining for ten featuring drop-down outdoor televisions. Panelled in satin finished oak, the white leather seating area of the main saloon has a fascinating lighting system in the ceiling. Guests can enjoy the gym, spa, sauna and steam room

on the bridge deck. The choice of casual seating areas is abundant – whether on the Portuguese bridge in front of the wheelhouse or the upper saloon with its full bar and extensive entertainment equipment. Or why not lounge on the sundeck before enjoying a meal in its alfresco dining area?

i. www.schnaase.de

4 | Complete Propulsion Systems

A family firm with three generations of experience, Piening Propeller was founded in 1929 and since then has designed, produced or reconditioned thousands of propellers and shaft systems. Today, the company provide in-house computer-aided design, foundry and turning shop to offer engineering for complete propulsion systems with fixed or variable pitch propellers that are being increasingly demanded by the superyacht building industry of today.

Owners and guests onboard a superyacht equipped with a Piening propulsion system will enjoy a smooth voyage thanks to hydrodynamic optimisation of propellers and shaft lines. This produces highly efficient propellers that enable silent and smooth sailing with low vibration levels. The propulsion expertise expanded in 2009 when Piening Propeller began providing powerful and silent transmissions by supplying ZF transmission products. The foundry at the heart of the factory casts propellers mainly from marine bronze or nickel aluminium bronze alloys – materials with high tensile strength. The affiliated turning shop is able to work with shafts up to 16 m in length.

Today Piening propellers and stern gears propel a variety of boats ranging from yachts, sport and high-speed boats, inland vessels, fishing boats and motor coasters to passenger and research vessels. Le Grand Bleu, at 112m long is one of the largest private yachts in the world. Having recently undergone an extensive refit, her propeller and shaft is also from Piening stock. Another notable project for which the company has provided propeller and shaft technology is the Lürssen-built 78m Madsummer.

i. www.piening-propeller.de

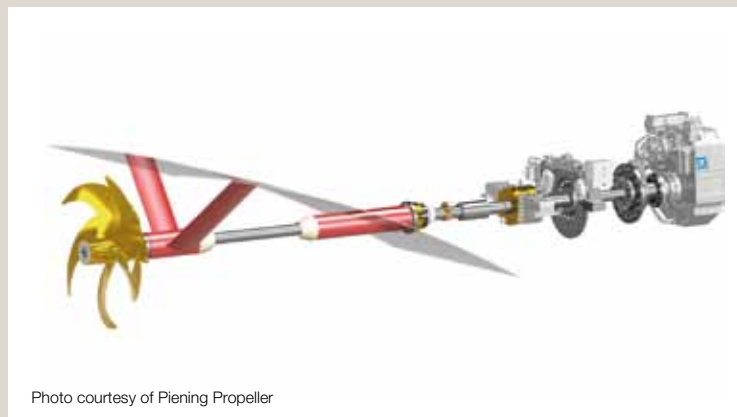


Photo courtesy of Piening Propeller



Mathias Pein talks to SYI's Tom Scott at METS 2013.

5 | There's No Light Like Yachtlite

Yachtlite has been providing perfect LED illuminated letterings and logos for the most beautiful yachts in the world since 2002. As the name of each yacht is unique, every Yachtlite design is also an individual creation made from the highest quality materials. The effect is guaranteed – especially at night when the elements radiate in every kind of shape and colour.

However, the product range of the creative Hannover team includes much more than simply yacht names. Yachtlite products highlight key exterior and interior accents everywhere on board. FormLite enriches contours and stairways, RoomLite creates complete illuminated surfaces and FloorLite inlays accent teak decks and floorings.

The increasing desire for high quality and unprecedented projects requires constant material, processing and supply controls. Specialised laboratories perform mock-ups to ensure perfect usability and customer satisfaction. To be a pioneer in the implementation of new visions and areas of application has always been a challenge and a goal for Yachtlite. An example of this pioneering attitude? In 2013 the company introduced the HeliLite, a fully certified, high resonance lighting system for helidecks.

Members of the 'Deutsche Yachten' association often share developments and innovations. For example, Yachtlite has realised illuminated carbon fibre structures with multiplex and interior and exterior light design with Schnaase Interior Design.

i. www.yachtlite.com



Photo courtesy of Conrad Shipyard





Photo courtesy of Nomen



Photo courtesy of Anselm Gaupp



Photo courtesy of Klaus Jordan



Photo courtesy of Fuchs

6 | *Elegant Form & Function*

Already a qualified boat builder, Axel Hoppenhaus went on to study shipbuilding before finally moving into the industrial design sector. By founding Nomen – a Hamburg-based company that manufactures cleats and fairleads for yachts, tenders and boat-clubs he realised his goal to create distinctiveness with high quality products by means of outstanding functionality and aesthetics. The first Nomen product was the folding cleat which today is still much in demand in the superyacht market – power and sail – as well as in the premium production boat sector. Following the proven design of the Nomen cleat the company launched the Nomen fairlead which is available in various individual shapes. The company's latest product is the Clip cleat, the winner of the 2013 DAME Award in the category of deck equipment, sails and rigging. The Clip cleat is a mooring cleat that always remains closed, no matter whether it is belayed or not. During belaying the soft moving ends readily give way – the line can be turned around the rigid part of the cleat. The ends stay free from any load and are held in position by a spring mechanism – this presents a smooth profile avoiding snags and injuries when closed. As such, unimpeded casting off is possible at all times. With this latest innovation, Nomen has created a very clever and elegant alternative to standard cleats.

i. www.nomenproducts.de

7 | *Superyacht Crane Systems – Strong, Stylish & Functional*

When it comes to launching tenders and jet skis, superyachts demand a maximum of individuality paired with excellent quality and design. That's why customisation is the standard at Fuchs Fördertechnik.

Flexibility and a disposition for innovation, continual development and enhancement of technological know-how are essential for success. Fuchs draws on a history of over 50 years of commitment to these ideals. Today, the company is a universally acknowledged specialist for individual material handling solutions. New and improved cranes are continually being designed and produced to create solutions for the handling of tenders, jet skis or even a helicopter hangar. Crane systems for superyachts must meet very stringent demands. 100 percent safe and reliable combined with elegant lines and a mirrored finish. Therefore, every product is individually designed to the highest standards of efficiency and functionality. Their quality is ensured by strict quality management in accordance with DNV Certification as well as individual approvals by classification bodies appointed by customers.

A market leader in the business, Fuchs produces all systems and equipment to pre-finished quality at their factory close to Hamburg. Throughout a project, experienced engineers provide assistance and advice to customers in every issue of design, construction, delivery and installation – making sure that every detail is perfect. Professional servicing and after-sales support round off the range of services offered.

i. www.fuchs-ag.de

