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*The business of boating*



Leading Brunswick's quiet revolution

## Dusty McCoy

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### BOOM OR BUBBLE?

Lifting the lid on the Brazilian market

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### GREEK TRAGEDY

Can boating float as Greece sinks in debt?

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# Abu Dhabi builds new village for Volvo Ocean Race

## UAE A SPECIALLY DESIGNED

55,000m<sup>2</sup> "Destination Village" is being built on the Abu Dhabi Corniche breakwater to host the Volvo Ocean Race yachting fleet, which is expected to stop there in late December.

The Abu Dhabi Tourist Authority (ADTA) says that the waters in the lagoon will be dredged and yacht pontoons will be installed with a permanent indoor facility. The "Destination Village", estimated to be about the size of eight football pitches, is

expected to host more than 100,000 visitors during the two-week stopover of the Volvo fleet. The specially designed pontoons will allow fans to get close to the yachts.

"This will ensure that our hosting leaves a lasting legacy for the emirate and will also boost our long-term ambitions to be recognised as a compelling winter sailing and watersports destination," said His Excellency Mubarak Al Muhairi, director of ADTA, in a statement.

# Yacht Solutions buys refit facility

## THAILAND YACHT

SOLUTIONS, one of SE Asia's leading superyacht service providers, has acquired a new superyacht refit facility in Bangkok. Measuring 300m x 100m, the new facility can accommodate vessels of up to 200m and is located just one hour from Bangkok International Airport.

Yacht Solutions' Bangkok facilities now include haul-out services for yachts of up to 85m and 1,500 tonnes, as well as access to two 115m dry docks, alongside berthing, two floating docks of up to 160m, and lift capacity of 3,000 tonnes.

"We have been in the marine refit and repair business in Thailand for 10 years and this seems the natural progression for our

business," says managing director Gareth Twist. "The superyacht industry in Asia is growing and recent trends show that there has been a year-on-year increase in the number of superyachts either in the region or transiting through the region and we are very keen to attract those vessels to our facility in Thailand for planned or emergency refits, repairs or conversion work."

Founded in Phuket, Thailand in 2001, Yacht Solutions claims to be one of SE Asia's leading superyacht marine consultancies. Recent refit projects include the 54m (177ft) *Pegaso*, 40m (131ft) *Amoha*, 35m (115ft) *Nymphaea* and 36m (118ft) *White Rabbit*.

## In Brief

### FAIRLINE TARGETS ASIA-PACIFIC

**HONG KONG** Fairline Boats continues to expand in Asia with the appointment of Jebesen Marine as its Fairline dealer for Hong Kong. The company's latest authorised dealer appointment follows Jebesen Group's appointment to represent the brand in mainland China, based in Shanghai, trading as Fairline China.

• [ibi-plus.com](http://ibi-plus.com) June 3

### EGYPTIAN MARINAS EXPAND

**EGYPT** Two Egyptian resorts on the Red Sea — El Gouna and Taba Heights — have increased their slip space. El Gouna can now accommodate an extra 106 vessels, with a maximum length of 80m. Taba Heights also increased its slip space to 50 vessels.

• [ibi-plus.com](http://ibi-plus.com) June 17



### SANCTUARY COVE

**AUSTRALIA** Attendance at this year's Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show was 35,604, down 8.4 per cent compared to last year. But show organiser Mulpha said many exhibitors reported positive results for the show.

• [ibi-plus.com](http://ibi-plus.com) May 23

### INDIAN MARINA MEETS OPPOSITION

**INDIA** A proposed marine industrial park in Marcaim in Ponda Taluka, India has met with local opposition. The government outlined plans in May for a new marine cluster in order to build the local marine industry, but critics say that the area is in an eco-sensitive zone.

• [ibi-plus.com](http://ibi-plus.com) May 23

### HYUNDAI SEASALL SPREADS OUT

**SOUTH KOREA** Hyundai SeasAll has expanded its distribution network, appointing West Diesel, Midif Diesel, MHD GmbH, Solé SA and Performance Diesel Inc to represent the marine engine distribution and aftersales service for Denmark, France, Germany and Switzerland, Spain and the US.

• [ibi-plus.com](http://ibi-plus.com) May 31

### AUSSIES CATCH SUPERYACHT BUG

**AUSTRALIA** Australia's corporate tycoons are buying multimillion dollar superyachts in record numbers, says Richard Morris, CEO of superyacht charter and consultancy firm Australian Superyachts. According to Morris, the price of superyachts have been slashed by as much as 70 per cent over the past two years.

• [ibi-plus.com](http://ibi-plus.com) June 3