



New basin transforms Genoa Show

ITALY: This year's Genoa International Boat Show (7th-15th October) was extended to include the new marina basin that has been constructed over the past 18 months by the Genoa Port Authority. Incorporating two quaysides, positioned to allow access to vessels of over 30m in length, the basin covers a water area of 65,000 sq m and is adjacent to a new 12,500 sq m boatyard.

The new marina complements the original 40,000 sq m yacht basin giving show organisers, Fiera di Genova and marine industry association UCINA, over 100,000 sq m of water space for floating exhibitors. A total of 430 boats were afloat at the 2006 show, 76 of which were 24-43m in length. Quayside mooring was augmented by an extensive arrangement of floating pontoons and walkways constructed from hardwood decked galvanised steel by Italian company, Ingemar.

Fiera di Genova chairman Paolo Lombardi expressed great satisfaction in the facility and the fact that it had been completed in record time for the boat show. "The new marina will allow us to plan, in cooperation with UCINA, other shows and trade fairs related to the maritime sector that will become an integral part of our official calendar and, together with other planned events, will further promote 'excellence' in the local economy and in specific sectors," he said.

When pontoons were installed, the Genoa site boasted the largest floating surface in the world for exhibition purposes. A staggering

6,150 sq m was added to the original 1,020 sq m in the original marina basin. The new marina was provided with 575m of 6m wide floating piers and 300m of 9m wide pontoons. The latter were used for floating stands. Ingemar used its King Size 12m x 3m modules supported by concrete coated polystyrene floats and moored by chains.

Ingemar, in its capacity as technical sponsor of the show, also supplied a new floating crosswalk over the access canals to the old wet dock, which connected the marina to the western exhibition area. The 80m long x 4.7m wide structure was built to blend in with other construction in the port basin.

The choice of floating modules enabled flexibility in layout and show set-up that would not otherwise have been possible. The pontoons were also repositioned after the show to adapt the layout to the requirements of a modern international marina.

The 2006 show was the 46th event to date. It featured 1,650 exhibitors and a total of 2,200 boats. Over 324,000 visitors attended from all over the world.

The marina will offer 300 full-service private slips for vessels up to 100ft. Local coastal engineering firm, Shabica & Associates, has been retained to undertake site evaluations to check that the marina will be sensitive to wave patterns and not cause land erosion. The marina waterway and one third of the marina will be completed as part of phase one of the project due to complete in late 2007.

The resort will also benefit from natural amenities, such as a white sand beach, snorkelling reef, rain forest and scarlet macaw nature reserve. Developers, Ara Macao Holdings LP and ioVest Development LLC, both of Illinois USA, are currently offering special early buy-in incentives.



Alex Laidlaw CMM has been named president of Dallas-based Flagship Marinas, the third largest marina owner and operator in the USA. He replaces Gregg Kenney who has stepped down from day-to-day management of the company after serving as president for six years. Kenney remains at Flagship as one of the company's three managing partners. With more than 15 years of experience in marina operations, Laidlaw was formerly vice-president of operations for Flagship and is very well known within the industry serving as vice chair of the board of directors for the Association of Marina Industries.



Clinton Murphey JD is the first director for the Applied Technology & Management (ATM) office in Dubai, UAE. He will head up operations as principle in charge and brings over 20 years' experience in waterfront

design and project management to the role. He has worked in a variety of engineering sectors, including natural gas distribution and the US Army Corps of Engineers. He also served as a technical assistance contractor and team leader for Federal Emergency Management Agency mobilisation, assisting with damage to various transportation infrastructure including roads, bridges, dykes, dams and reservoirs.



Brian Burns has been appointed market director for Seaflex, Sweden. Previously sales manager for central Europe and the UK, Burns will now manage all Seaflex commercial activities with a view to restructuring

the company to meet the demands of the international market. Reporting an average growth of 30% over the last eight years, the company now exports 90% of its production. Burns is an Irish national who has lived and worked in several countries. He is fluent in five languages and has degrees in mechanical engineering (Dublin, Ireland) and business production and management (Thames Valley, UK).



Phil Dunn joins the UK based Marina Projects team as senior project manager. A civil engineer by profession, he has spent the last five years working in the marina industry, most recently as project manager (civils and marine) for Marina

Developments (MDL). Dunn will initially be assisting with study work for the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) on sites at East Cowes and Woolston as well as taking a leading role in a recent commission for Dover Harbour Board, currently seeking to create a new marina to replace existing marina berths which will be displaced as part of a major port expansion.

Placencia resort wins approvals

BELIZE: The Belize National Environmental Appraisal Committee has approved the development of Ara Macao Resort & Marina in Placencia.

Situated on the western edge of the Caribbean, Ara Macao will incorporate the region's only full-service marina with direct access to the sea. The marina will form part of a 582 acre waterfront site comprising 456 beachfront condominiums, 296 marina waterway villas, 260 sea view hotel condominiums and 59 golf course homes.