

The Superyacht

TRUTH • OPINION KNOWLEDGE • IDEAS & SUPERYACHT OWNER INSIGHT



OWNER

TAKE TWO

The Hemsleys on the joys of owning both a motoryacht and a sailing yacht.

PLANE SAILING

The complexities of incorporating helicopters and seaplanes onto superyachts.

LEARNING THE ROPES

Brian O'Sullivan on his experiences as both owner and captain of S/Y *Komokwa*.

HOW I DID IT

Feadship CEO Henk de Vries talks custom yachts, competition and classic cars.

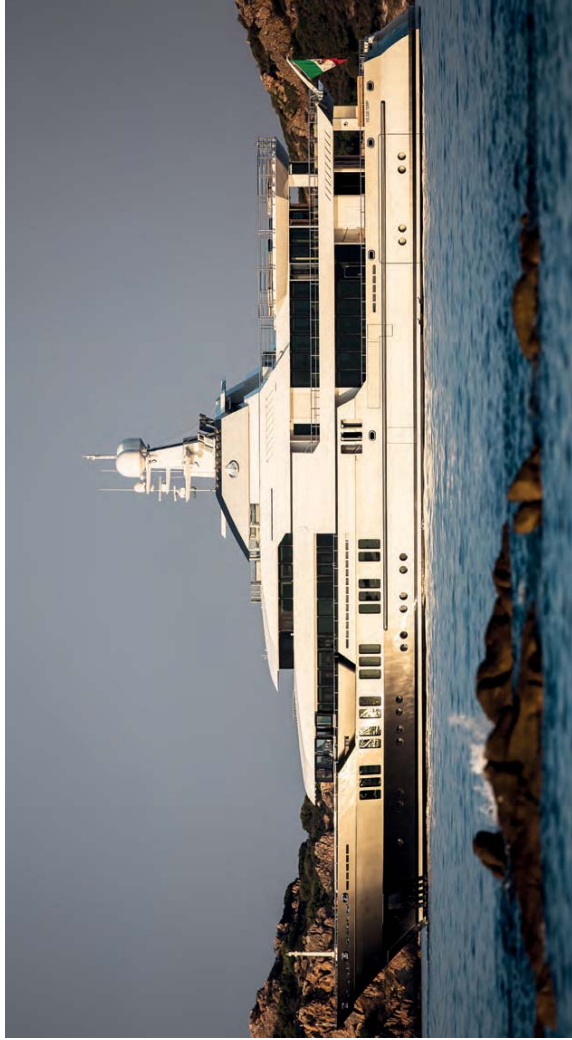


BUILDING WITH A CONSCIENCE

INTERVIEW BY DOMINIQUE AFAGAN

VSY are leading the way when it comes to incorporating environmentally-friendly practices in shipbuilding. *The Superyacht Owner* spoke to sustainability manager Vienna Eleuteri to find out more.





PEACE OF MIND



Cristiana Longarini, director of Italian shipyard VSY described their award-winning 72m superyacht, *Stella Maris* as being perfect for a forward-looking owner 'who respects the environment', a nod to the host of eco-sustainable systems installed on board. In fact, the company have been committed to exploring environmentally friendly solutions from their inception – adopting various eco certifications ahead of other yards, and developing technology and solutions that bring sustainability right onto their yachts. More recently the yard has been working with the Eulabor Institute to develop the 'WaterEvolution' model. *The Superyacht Owner* spoke to sustainability manager Vienna Eleuteri to find out more.

WHAT DRIVES VSY'S PASSION FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT?

Our world is under strain. The Earth's physical change – climate, biodiversity, chemistry – is mainly being driven by human activity. All business, all economies, all living and man-made systems depend on nature. My effort as an anthropologist and a sustainability scientist, is to pioneer ways to move forward that embrace economic, social and environmental objectives. Sustainable development is a science of complex systems, touching on economic prosperity, social inclusion and cohesion, environmental sustainability and good governance by major social actors, including government and business. It's a lot to ask for, and there is no shortage of challenges. The stakes are high but it is the most important challenge facing our generation.

WHY DID VSY CHOSE TO DEVELOP THE WATEREVOLUTION MODEL, TOGETHER WITH THE EULABOR INSTITUTE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA?

Right from their beginnings in 2004, VSY have been clear about their company mission, collaborating with international registers and implementing their certifications (some of which had only hitherto been adopted by large cruisers) such as Green Star Plus Gold, ABS ES (Environment Safety) and EP (Environmental Protection). Linking to such a specific market is strategic: the market is able to quickly react to innovations and economic pushes. Given the peculiarities of luxury yachts, where the industrial construction processes are adapted in different ways for each vessel (as a consequence of customer requirements), the yachting industry is well suited for accepting and implementing the WaterEvolution model.

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CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE CONCEPT OF COMPUTATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY?

It allows a company to break down every stage of the production process – and then measure the sustainability elements at each stage. It also measures the cost benefit indicators. VSY recognised that the preservation of resources and high performance isn't a contradiction at all. Quite the contrary – with our computational sustainability program VSY achieved a 20 per cent reduction of CO₂ and energy consumption in the production process, a 10 per cent reduction in costs and a significant reduction of the owner's operating and maintenance costs.

Management | New Construction | Financial

TRUST

Knowledge | Experience | Dedication



Healthy yachts for healthy people. By adopting the computational sustainability approach we implemented Yachting 2.0, a management system that will provide a reference framework where best greener practices can be adopted and, more importantly, constantly certified.

HOW CAN OTHER SHIPYARDS GET INVOLVED? ARE YOU SHARING THE KNOWLEDGE YOU HAVE GATHERED WITH THIS PROJECT AND IS IT TRANSFERABLE?

The transfer and sharing of knowledge is part of the process. VSY aim to share this model with the maritime cluster as a whole. It's not just possible, it's also very easy to do. This year we're going to share the model within the industry. SYBASS and the Mare Forum as a first step. Strategic partnerships are the key to success.

WHAT INNOVATIONS OUTSIDE OF WATEREVOLUTION ARE YOU IMPRESSED BY?

Today's technology allows for improvements that were considered visionary just five years ago, and that trend will continue. In just the last year, there have been terrific examples of innovation around nature-inspired technologies and design, hybrid engines and renewable energy systems, solar power generation, teak-like materials and biophilic design. There are such wonderful opportunities today for building more sustainable and more sexy yachts than ever:

VSY'S STELLA MARIS HAS BEEN CALLED 'THE GODMOTHER OF THE ENVIRONMENT'. WHAT STEPS WERE TAKEN TO REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF STELLA MARIS?


The long list of features and care we put into the Eco-Yachts project is impressive:

- Wide use of recyclable materials;
- Electric auxiliary engines for use in harbour and wherever it is advisable to avoid running of the main engine, resulting in a vastly reduced environmental impact, especially in terms of noise;
- A Green Anchoring system to station the yacht by dynamic positioning in areas where traditional anchoring is forbidden because of potential damage, for example, to coral reefs and Scandinavian fjords;

- Installation of last generation particle filters for the highest possible smoke reduction in the exhaust system;
- Recycling of the heat from the generator exhausts to produce hot water on board;
- Study and definition of an eco-productive maintenance system for continuous integrated monitoring (extended to post-delivery) of the eco-systems and appliances installed, providing also a dedicated ergonomic training software platform for the manning of the yacht.

Previous page: Stella Maris Above: Presenting Waterrevolution to the media in Venice

WHAT PROJECTS DOES VSY HAVE IN THE PIPELINE FOR 2016?

The yard's long-term vision is celebrated by the latest 64-metre *Duchess of Tuscany*, which goes well beyond present known standards. It will be a front runner in lower impact cost-effective vessels and a flagship for green innovation. Our 'born to be green' workshop will also be launched before the end of 2016. It will kick-off an international competition and will offer yacht designers, naval architects and boat builders the chance to show their fresh and creative work, ideas or concepts based on Yachting 2.0. The workshop will amplify our message and model. It will be a catalyst for inspiration and change. 

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“From the British Virgin Islands to Barbados, we’re here to help with everything from advance itinerary planning to last minute specialist concierge requests.”

Lucille Frye
Managing Partner,
BWA St. Maarten



BWA Yachting is your shore support team. Our global offices stretch throughout the Caribbean, Americas and Mediterranean meaning we're always on hand to provide a seamless experience, wherever you're cruising.

Our smartphone app puts our expert local knowledge at your fingertips. Visit bwa-app.com to download.

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