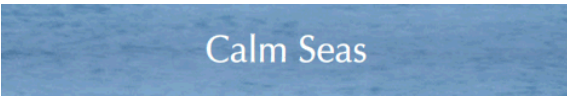


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24 Oct 2014

Refit: meeting half way

Lulu Trask

A superyacht's captain won't always be around from the start in a new build project. In a refit, however, it is commonplace that a captain is there from the start, will aid the project significantly and see it through until its completion. So what happens when a spanner is thrown in the works and the yacht's captain changes halfway through a refit? How does this affect the project, the shipyard team and the final result?



"It is certainly preferable that the personnel who agreed the plan and start the project are around through [to] its conclusion so there is continuity," says James Brewer, head of business development at Derektor Shipyards. "But," he adds, "if there is a good plan, a change of captain halfway through the project is not really a problem."

If the project plan – including bills of material, responsibilities, general schedule and pricing – is well developed, and done so prior to work being started, then the impact of a mid-project change in personnel is significantly lessened, explains Brewer. And, not only does it not have to be a problem; there can even be benefits. "A fresh set of eyes and ears is sometimes beneficial to a project that is experiencing challenges," adds Brewer.

"A fresh set of eyes and ears is sometimes beneficial to a project that is experiencing challenges."
- James Brewer, business development, Derektor Shipyards

Lürssen's 68m motoryacht *Global* (ex *Kismet*) finished an extensive refit this year, under the project management of Hill Robinson, and the yacht's captain, Malcolm Jacotine, joined the project halfway through. "Often you don't have a choice [when there is a change in personnel]. Malcolm joined because he was replacing another captain who left the vessel. And if you have a big refit or project and somebody in a senior position changes halfway through, there's always the potential for delay or change and that's never a good thing," Karl Hartmann, Hill Robinson project manager and on the project management team for *Global's* refit, tells *The Superyacht Owner*.

"However, in Malcolm's case, he became part of the team immediately. He is an open book and you build up a good relationship where the input from their side is nine out of 10 times super valuable, as with anyone in a senior position in the team," explains Hartmann.

Captain Jacotine joined the project with a wealth of shipyard experience behind him and, with much of the work already underway and having been decided upon by the owner's team, this meant the captain could get on with the operational planning for the yacht upon delivery. "When he joined the vessel he had to set up his own procedures, ways of working, and he needed to do a lot of work on getting his team together for the operational side. Because we took all the refit handling and managing on, which is part of our job, he had time to focus on things things and get ready for the season," Hartmann



REFIT

'The Italian Job'

For the second edition of Amico & Co.'s 'The Italian Job', more than 100 captains and industry professionals were invited to enjoy a weekend of golf, tennis, spa treatments and fine dining to remind them of the benefits of undertaking refit work at the Italian yard. [More](#)



REFIT

Keeping Katja's Feadship Heritage

Following an extensive four year refit, owner Paul Hoffman has placed his Feadship classic 20m yacht Katja up for sale. He recently caught up with The Superyacht Owner on the refit process and how he maintained the Feadship Heritage tradition throughout her re-launch. [More](#)



REFIT

CEO in conversation: Goran Prgin

A recent visit to the NCP Refit Shipyard in Croatia featured a discussion with the owner and CEO, Mr Goran Prgin who shared his views on the local economy and where the future of the Adriatic superyacht industry is headed. [More](#)



REFIT

Quantifying costs?

Whilst the use of quantity

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Intelligence

Mid-year order book activity



With 2014 now over half way through, it is an opportune time to take a brief look back on order book activity and fleet movement between January and June with Superyacht Intelligence's mid-year order book review. [More](#)

Yachts

KATJA

A brand that needs no introduction, Feadship is working hard to link the past to the present with the development of their Feadship Heritage Fleet (FHF). While they remain committed ... [More](#)

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explains.



Lürssen 68m Global after her refit

"Ass anyone who has been involved with a major refit knows, it is the preparatory work and ongoing management that is the key to success, and this had all been carefully handled and executed by a team from Hill Robinson." Captian Jacotine tells *The Superyacht Owner*. "For me this was a great experience as it meant I could focus more time and energy on the operational and financial aspects of running the yacht, rather than being involved in the daily details of project management."

Of course, in most cases it is preferable to undergo minimal changes in the team throughout a refit, but when the change means added experience joining an already well-founded team, it doesn't have to be a challenging experience. For some, that fresh set of eyes and existing preparation can mean an even more successful refit.

surveyors during land based refurbishment projects has become the norm, why is the same not done when completing a superyacht refit? [More](#)



MANAGEMENT

Dr Axtmann's Cost of Operation

The owner of FAI Rent-a-Jets, who also owns the 50m QM of London, Dr Sigfried Axtmann, offers his insight and analysis on how to assess your yacht's running costs and the value of a refit [More](#)



REFIT

CEO: In conversation

Alberto Amico, head of Genoa's Amico & Co, comes from a long line of shipbuilders dating back generations. Justin Ratcliffe spoke with the company president and CEO about the challenges of the refit sector and how it is evolving to meet the demands of the marketplace. [More](#)

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