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Riding the Storm Out... Again!



As with last year's two major hurricanes, ACY was fortunate to suffer only minor cosmetic damage from Hurricane Wilma, an unusually intense late season storm that passed directly over the facility.

On Wednesday, October 19th, all eyes were on Wilma – a late season Category 5 hurricane churning toward the Gulf of Mexico. Wilma had developed quickly into the most powerful storm ever recorded in the Atlantic basin, covering a huge area with wind gusts clocked at 196 mph. Wilma's path was uncertain, but weather experts predicted a frontal boundary steering it toward southwestern Florida, with a projected inland path taking it right over the Treasure Coast – an area still recovering from two direct hits last year by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne, both major storms. Due to Wilma's enormous

mass, if it made landfall as a deadly Category 5, it could easily sustain enough energy to impact the east coast as a Category 4 storm.

Working split shifts around the clock for the next three days, ACY's haul-out team secured vessel after vessel. Utilizing three haul-out bays and two Travelifts®, ACY filled as many requests as possible, fitting vessels together like a jigsaw puzzle to maximize the yard's expanded storage areas. The last to be hauled on Saturday morning were ACY's company vessels, the FREEDOM and the PATRIOT. The final tally: 132 boats secured and stored – a new yard record.



The first order of business the next morning.

"Our haul-out team came together in the hour of need for the boating community," said ACY President Dominick LaCombe. "They worked extra shifts on a voluntary basis until capacity was met. Only then did they take time to attend to their personal matters. ACY owes them a huge debt of gratitude."

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Upon completion of the new building, ACY's current prep room will be dedicated strictly to paint application.

ACY Ready to Break Ground on New Paint Prep Building

According to Project manager John Resnik, ACY is ready to embark on the next phase of construction for the new paint prep building. The underground drainage system is now in place and ACY is making plans to pour the foundation. The metal components for the building will be shipped in from Louisiana and constructed on site as an extension to the existing paint bay. The finished structure will measure 157' x 88' with a 43' clearance. The

exterior fabrication will begin by late winter, with completion slated for early summer.

"The main purpose of this building is to have a completely separate facility to sand and fair vessels prior to their transfer to the paint room," said Resnik. "It will create a better work flow, allowing us to block schedule crews simultaneously between disassembly, prep and top coat application. We hope to be fully operational by fall."

Riding Out the Storm... *continued*

Wilma made landfall at 6:30 a.m. Monday morning as a Category 3 storm at Cape Romano, near Naples. It beat a swath of destruction across the state, exiting the east coast in the early afternoon at Hobe Sound, just a few miles south of ACY, as a strong Category 2 storm. With an eye measuring 75 miles across – three times that of a normal hurricane – Wilma sustained much of its strength as it converged on heavily populated south Florida, resulting in the largest power outage in the state's history. ACY was fortunate to open Tuesday morning under generator power, having suffered only minor cosmetic damage.

The 2005 Atlantic hurricane season shocked the hardest of sea dogs and veteran meteorologists alike, spawning 26 named storms with 14 developing into hurricanes. By late October, all the official 2005 hurricane names had been exhausted, and characters in the Greek alphabet were designated for late season storms. On November 30, the last day of the busiest hurricane season in 75 years, tropical storm Epsilon had just formed in the Atlantic, destined to become only the fifth hurricane in history occurring in December.

Nothing can eclipse the immeasurable tragedy that befell the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. We can only hope to be better prepared as forecasters predict a trend of increased hurricane activity that could last a decade.



"Dom's Haul-out Heroes" celebrate their victory over the elements (L-R): Dominick "Lil D" LaCombe, Jay "Mouth" Rathbun, Joy "Bap Bap" McTighe, Fred "Pops" Solomon, and Kenny "Senior" Miller (not pictured: Joe "What Not" Wausnock, Wayne "Weezy" Moore, Jimmy Knight and Joe "Pomba" Hall).

NC Building Exterior Fabrication Completed



The remote-controlled crane to be used in tower fabrication is visibly mounted on the yellow guide beam along the ceiling.

The new mid-Atlantic home of Bausch-American Towers and IMS American – located at Jarrett Bay in Beaufort, NC – is one step closer to reality. The exterior fabrication of the 30,000-square foot complex is now complete. The interior walls will be installed next, along with the electric, heating and air conditioning systems. The corporate offices will then be painted and carpeted, aiming for early spring occupancy.

ACY Puts Finishing Touches on New 50 Express



Having completed the interior fabrication, engine installation and a complete paint job, ACY is now putting the finishing touches on this new custom-built 50' express sportfisherman with the installation of a BAT tower and electronics package by IMS. The project has been directed every step of the way by the boat's owner, Neil Afromsky, who brought the unique vessel shell – designed by Applied Concepts – to ACY for finishing.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

CONFESOR SANDOVAL

Over his seven years at ACY, Confesor Sandoval has mastered many aspects of marine service, including bottom painting, varnish application and fiberglass lay-up. He is now an important member of ACY's hard top fabrication team.

"Confesor has been a great asset to every crew he has worked with," said ACY General Manager Mark Woodard. "He approaches every job with a positive attitude and gets along well with everyone. He is always ready to step up to a new challenge."

Originally from Acapulco, Mexico, Sandoval lived in California for 16 years before relocating with his wife and family to Florida eight years ago.

"I feel very content here," said Sandoval. "Florida is a wonderful place to live and ACY has provided me with a trade and the opportunity to advance in the company as I learn new jobs."



www.IMSAmerican.com

NEWS NEWS

INTEGRATING ELECTRONICS

Florida: 800-960-8476 • North Carolina: 252-728-7720



A new Nordhavn's 64 is loaded at the factory in Taiwan for shipment to Florida.

IMS to Outfit New Nordhavn 64 Expedition Yacht

Famous for their fine line of seaworthy long-range vessels, Nordhavn has combined the elements of a

luxury motoryacht with the rugged durability of a North Sea trawler in the Nordhavn 64 – creating a hybrid vessel that is truly evolutionary in design.

“This new 64 will showcase the kind of cutting-edge navigational equipment and computer networking normally found on a commercial type bridge,” said IMS Sales and Engineering Specialist Steve Delany. “It will also be equipped with backup systems for long-range travel, including redundancy in satellite communications, auto pilot, navigation and radio systems.”

According to Delany, several pallets of electronics have been shipped from IMS to the Nordhavn factory in Taiwan for installation, with final commissioning to be performed at ACY upon the vessel's delivery in March.

Florida Notes

IMS is performing a major navigation systems refit on a 92' **Hatteras** motoryacht. The existing radar and plotting equipment will be replaced by new black box and computer navigation technology displayed on two full color LCD screens in both the pilot house and flybridge. IMS will also upgrade the closed circuit TV, AIS vessel identification and cell phone communications systems.



HATTERAS 92 MOTORYACHT

Product Profile



If you want proof that good things come in small packages, just ask IMS who now offers the smallest marine satellite TV system on the water. A big hit at the Ft. Lauderdale International Boat Show, the new TracVision® M3 mobile satellite TV system by KVH features a dome that is 30% smaller than that previously required for gyro-stabilized satellite TV service, making it the system of choice for DIRECTV® users on smaller vessels. The antenna measures just 14.5 inches and easily connects to a 12-volt power supply. It has a range of about 85 miles, which is ideal for short coastal excursions and Bahamas trips.



CABO40 Express

North Carolina Notes

IMS North Carolina recently installed the ultimate electronics package on a new **Cabo 40 Express**. Components included a Furuno NAVnet® integrated computer system, AIS, weatherfax, and a 3kW high power fish finder with custom box. Operations Manager Michael Garrett also reports that his crew is busy outfitting two new vessels by **Grady-White** – a 33 and 36-footer – for **Crocker's Marine** in Wilmington. IMS is also starting installations on two new Carolina-built sportfishermen – a 64' **Lightning** and a 56' **Chadwick**.



Custom Home Entertainment Specialist Brant Kraczek Joins FOX Team

FOX Audio Video is proud to welcome Home Entertainment Consultant Brant Kraczek to the team. Brant brings over 10 years of experience in the custom home entertainment field, most recently as a sales manager for Sound Advice where he spent the last five years coordinating the sales efforts among several Florida store locations.

Kraczek will work closely with homeowners to create truly individual entertainment packages, lighting and security systems, as well as custom home automation. He will also work within the business community to provide office automation, computer networking and telephone communication systems. Brant is factory-trained in the latest applications by product leaders like Crestron®, Vantage®, Niles® and many others.

"I came to FOX because they are truly on the cutting edge of home entertainment and automation," said Kraczek. "They have a proven track record in the community and the experience to design the ultimate system for any residence or business."

Product Profile

ELAN® Home Remote Systems



VIA!® Color In-Wall Touch Panel

Imagine being able to control all of your components – TVs, music, lighting, even automated window treatments – as you move around your residence. Get unplugged with the convenience of ELAN's VIA!®2 wireless touch panel and you will have complete control wherever you go.

VIA!®2 Wireless Touch Panel



The ELAN VIA!® is a full-color in-wall touch panel that can be used to control audio-video components, as well as other household electronic systems such as lighting, security and thermostats. With the touch of a button, it also becomes a video monitor, allowing you to view everything from security cameras to the Weather Channel on its mini LCD screen.



Audio-Video Notes



MX850 Home Theater Master® universal remote

In the wake of Hurricane Wilma, FOX has been inundated with calls for home satellite repairs. During the process, several customers have chosen to upgrade their systems by adding high-definition satellite and a **Home Theater Master®** universal remote control.

FOX has been contracted by **Global Device Management** of Duluth, MN to provide wiring and technical support for GDM's Global Control® Video Data and Communication System, soon to be installed in the operating rooms of **Martin Memorial Hospital** in Stuart, FL.

The Global Control® system is designed to read the signal from any video source and create a standardized high-quality 1280 x 1024 analog image feeding to LCD video monitors so that doctors and medical students can observe operating procedures via closed circuit television.

BAT Florida Highlights



Two new custom full towers near completion on the factory floor. In the foreground is the tower for a 70' Miller; on the right is a tower for a 50' Sea Island Express.



This low profile tower is being fabricated on a jig for a new 33' L&H walkaround.



A full tower awaits the final touches on this unique 50' "catfisherman" built by Southern Composite Yachts.

BAT North Carolina Highlights



BAT installed a half-tower and rail package on this 54' Hatteras for Jarrett Bay Yacht Sales.



This eye-catching full tower was installed in the commissioning of a new 40' Cabo for Pete Horst Yacht Sales.



BAT traveled to Weaver Boatworks in Tracy's Landing, MD to install a full tower and rail package, along with a set of Rupp® riggers on the 64' Weaver TROUBLE MAKER.

ACY Work In Progress

A SAMPLING OF PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY



No thanks to Hurricane Wilma, ACY is repairing damage to the hull and forward engine room, and installing new carpeting on the BABY GRAND, a 61' Ricky Scarborough.



SALT SHAKER, a 65' Jim Smith, is undergoing a major overhaul at ACY. Work includes engine room and lazzarette fuel tank replacement, a new fuel plumbing system, running gear replacement, tower repair, as well as major mechanical and electrical system upgrades.



ACY is closing the davit hole on the foredeck, refinishing the bow hatches and fabricating new custom vent boxes on HEADS UP, a 61' Buddy Davis.



EMILY K, a 72' Kingscraft aluminum trawler, is visiting ACY for running gear and prop replacement.



LIGHTWAVE, an 86' Hatteras sportfisherman, has returned to ACY to upgrade its water lines to Unipipe®, flush the fuel tanks, repair the air compressor system and replace the deck hatches. Additional routine service includes teak deck refinishing, a hull wax and a full bottom job.

ACY



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COMING IN OUR NEXT ISSUE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE ON NEW ACY68 FREEDOM

Ship ShapeTV® Takes on New Project at ACY

Boat owners across the country visit ACY every week just by tuning to their favorite "how to" boat improvement show – Ship Shape TV®. Many of the show's segments are filmed right here in the ACY yard, and Ship Shape's editing suite is conveniently housed on site.

Always ready to take on the most challenging of projects, enterprising host John Greviskis and the Ship Shape® team recently purchased a 25-year-old Monterey sportfisherman, aptly named CAUGHT ON TAPE, to be the subject of an ongoing series about the proper repair and maintenance of a sportfish vessel.

According to the vessel's captain, Wink Dourzbacher, the 57-footer is in great shape for its age, but is ready for some major upgrades: "Our crew is painting the bottom first; then we'll tackle some big projects like fuel tank replacement and the installation of a new tower. Our plan is to highlight each job on the show as a work in progress.

"In the end, the boating community will have gained a lot of knowledge



and we'll have a beautiful new company flagship. The best thing about it is having ACY here to make sure we do it right," he added.

Ship Shape TV® can be seen throughout Florida on SunSports™ network, and along the eastern seaboard and Great Lakes region on FOX Sports Net.™

ASK THE YACHT DOCTORS®

This new feature answers commonly asked questions posed to ACY regarding boat construction, maintenance and repair. Please fax your question to 772-288-4993, or e-mail it to acy@qate.net, in care of the "Yacht Doctors®." If your question is selected, we'll send you an ACY T-shirt. (To protect your privacy, your name will not be used.) The doctors are always in!

Q: *How do I determine when it is time to repaint my boat?*

YD: The amount of time a paint job will last on a boat is determined in direct proportion to the amount of exposure it has received from the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays. A vessel in Florida, for instance, is located closer to the equator than a boat in the northeast U.S., and is therefore subject to more direct UV exposure and more rapid paint oxidization.

When oxidation occurs, it makes the paint finish appear dull and it takes increasingly heavier applications of wax to get a good shine. At this point, it is time to consider repainting.

