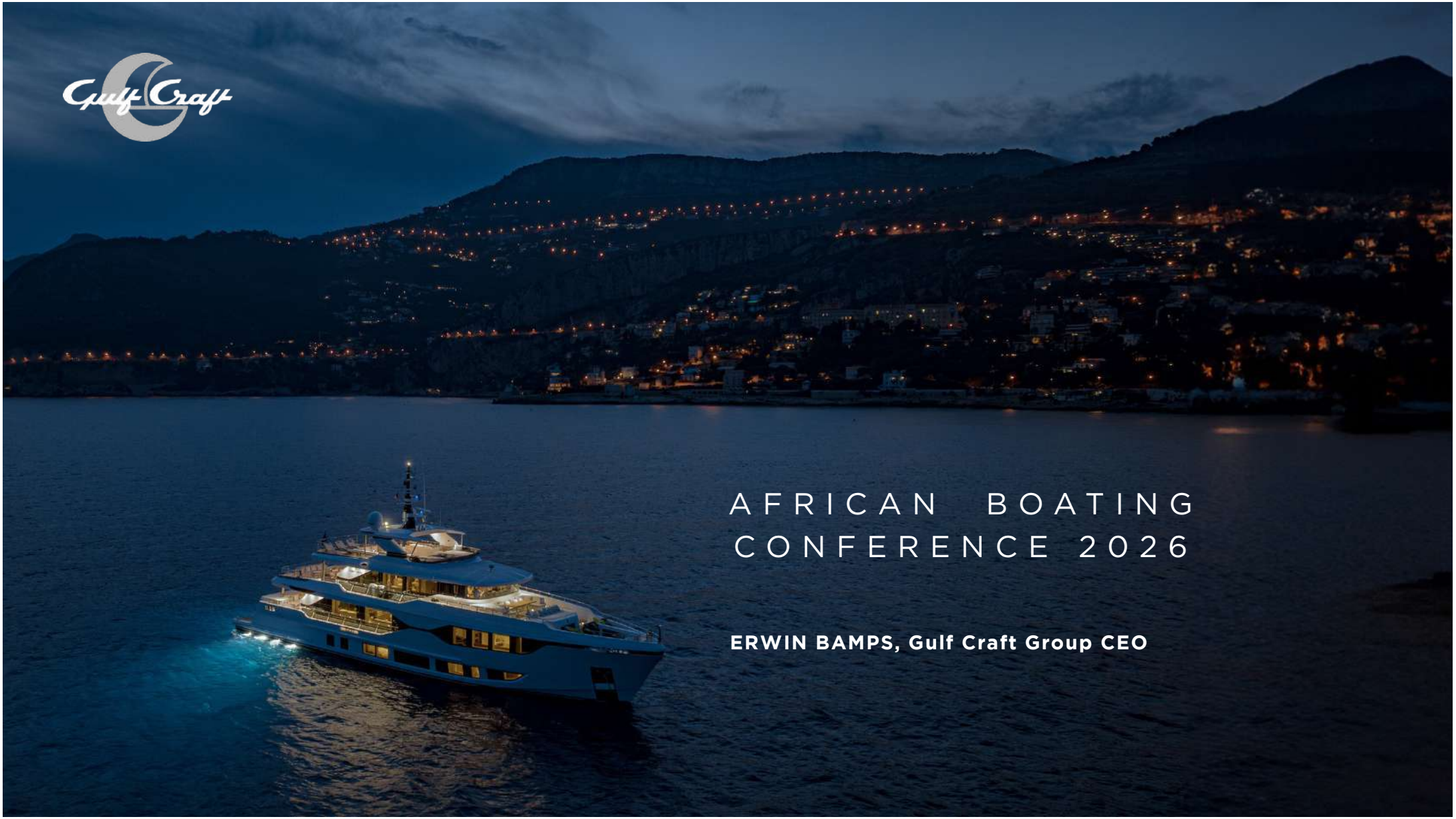

Gulf Craft
AFRICAN BOATING
CONFERENCE 2026
ERWIN BAMPS, Gulf Craft Group CEO


Dubai 1950s

EARLY DAYS

Established in 1982

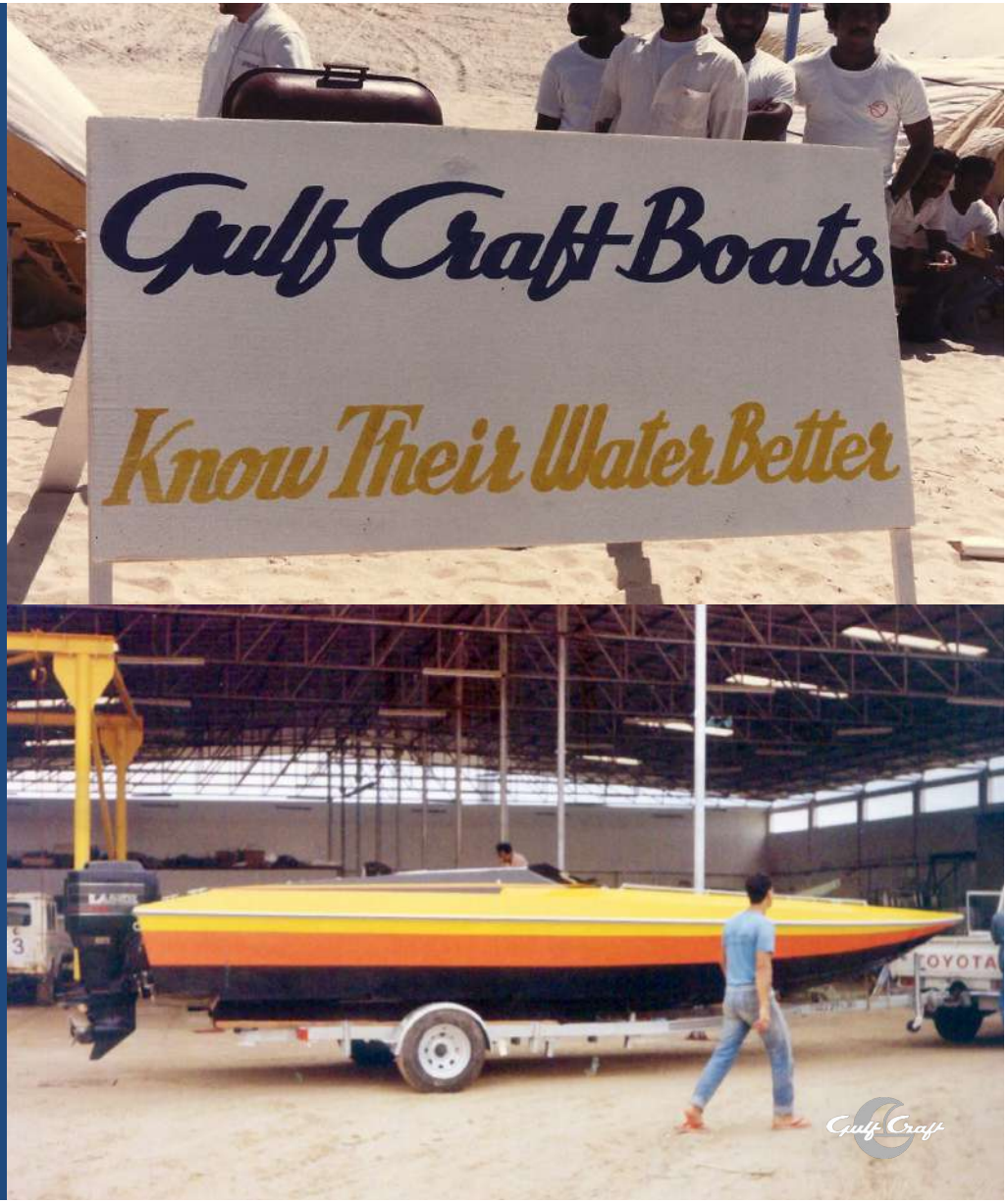


FROM (SPORT) FISHING TO LEISURE BOATING



LOCAL

Know-how
Customization
Technical support





PIONEERING DAYS

FRP CONSTRUCTION IN THE MIDDLE-EAST


YACHT
CONSTRUCTION

REMOTENESS

Opportunity & Challenge



NO INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

Until recently, manufacturing was not a key pillar of the UAE government growth strategy







NO MARITIME CLUSTER ?

Design and engineering
Naval architecture
Carpentry and Joinery
Upholstery
Steel fabrication
Marble works
Equipment commissioning & Parts
Class survey

An obligatory vertical integration model





OUTGROWING THE LOCAL MARKET

When the waterfront infrastructure lags behind

FROM BUILDING SKILL SETS TO BUILDING BRANDS

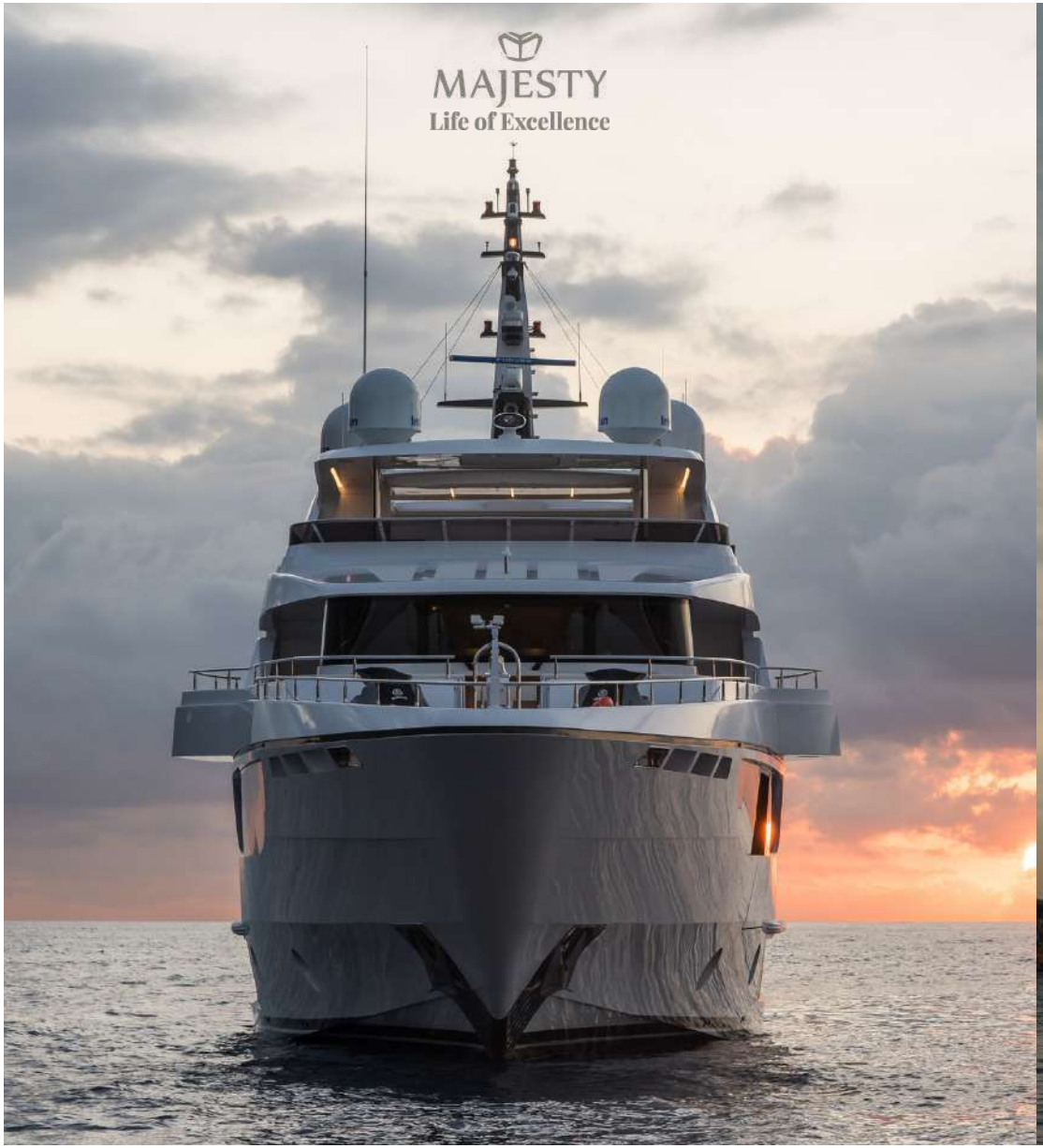


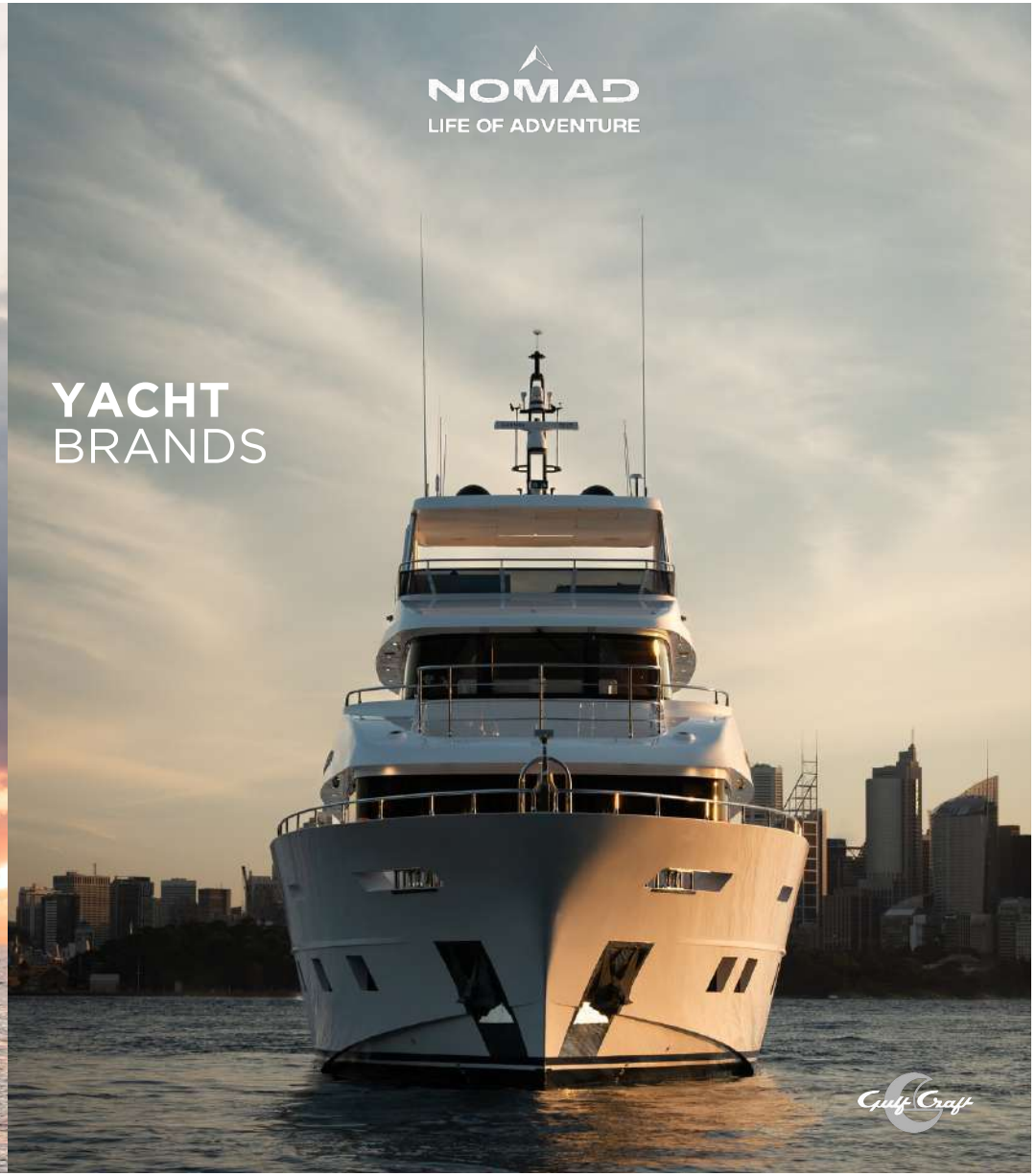
DIVERSIFICATION

Geographically
Product portfolio
Market segments

We couldn’t scale being a specialist




MAJESTY
Life of Excellence


NOMAD
LIFE OF ADVENTURE
YACHT
BRANDS
Gulf Craft

LEISURE BOATING BRANDS



ORYX
Fun & Family



SilverCat
YOUR RIDE INTO THE FUTURE


UTILITY
SERIES

THE PURSUIT OF USPs
LOCALLY STRONG – GLOBALLY STRONG



BALANCING B2B and B2C MARKETS





BALANCING B2B and B2C MARKETS

ALIGNING GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE INVESTORS AND BOATING INDUSTRY

Tourism, F&B and Real Estate as the main sponsors

Hotels and resorts

Charter industry



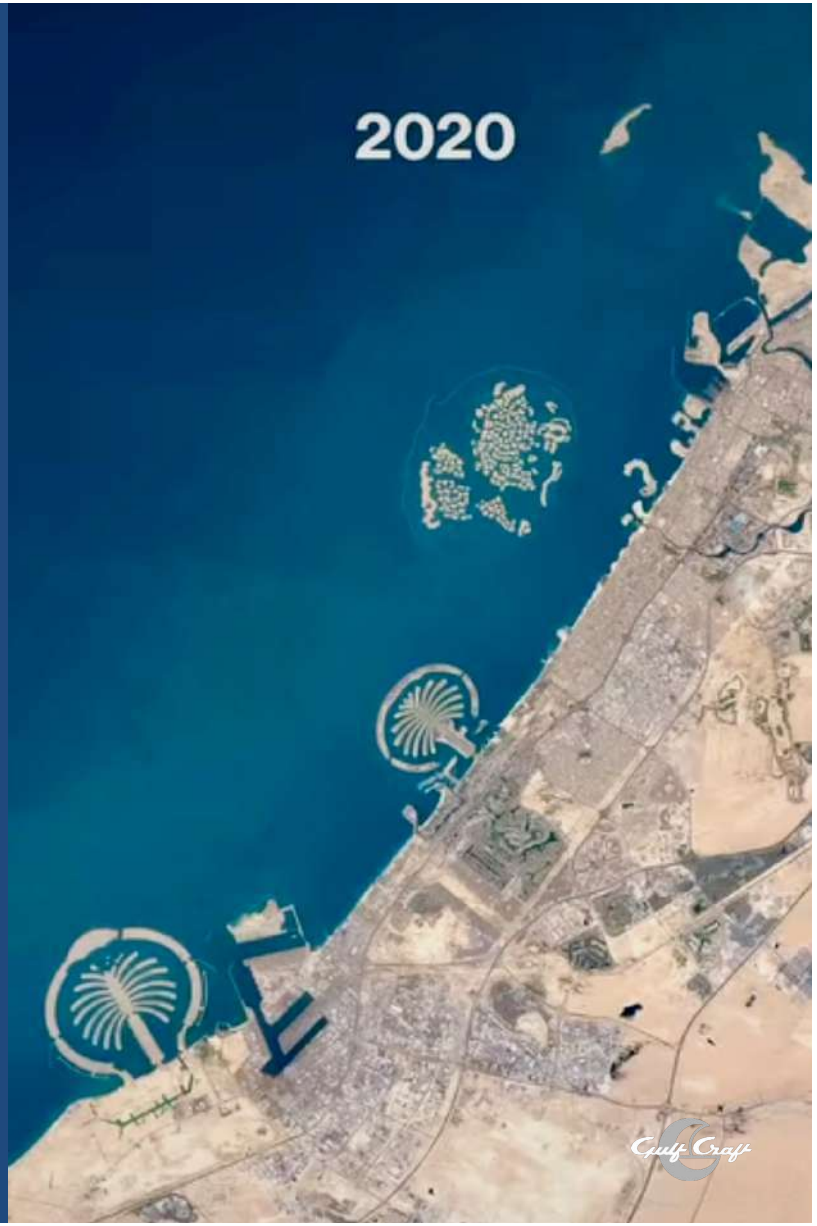


DUBAI

From 21 km of public beaches to 105 km by 2040 (+400%)

Added 68 km² of land via coastal reclamation

Palm Jumeirah alone added 70 km of new coastline



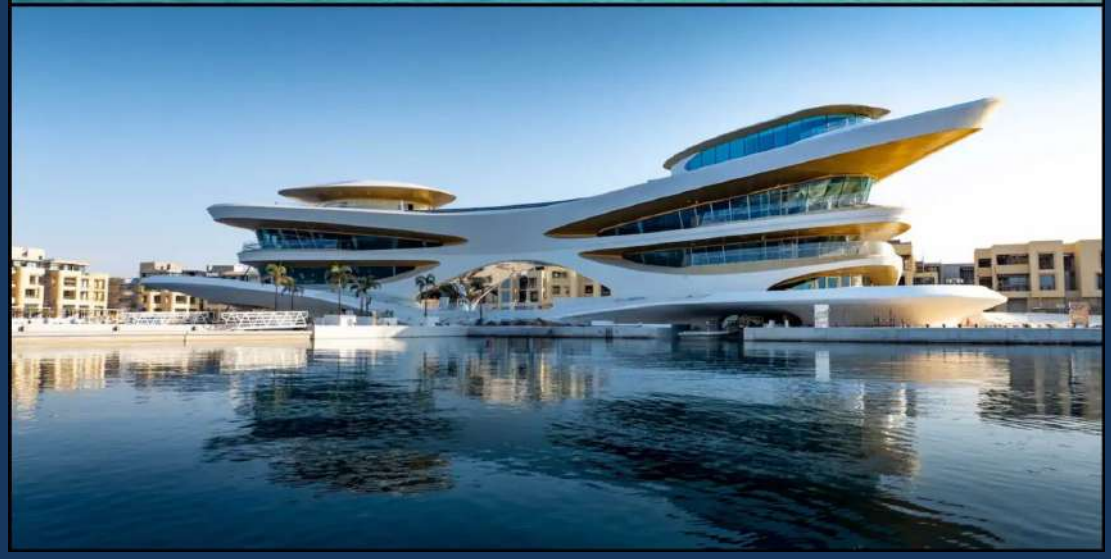
GLOBAL REAL ESTATE TREND TOWARD LUXURY WATERFRONT LIVING

Driving marina development and boating growth

Proximity to water as the new Gold Standard







Amaala and Shura Island, KSA

Under 1 berthing contract, boaters have access to the 278 berths shared by the 2 marinas, catering to vessels up to 120m in length.





Wynn Al Marjan Island, RAK, UAE



Il Monte Galala Towers &
Marina in Ain Sokhna, Egypt



Marsa Al Saadiyat Marina, Abu Dhabi, UAE

CREATING YACHTING DESTINATIONS

Not simply “boat parkings”
Connected destinations
Enticing boat owners to spend more time on the water






UNLOCKING AFRICA AS A SUPERYACHT DESTINATION
Greenland
Iceland
Sweden
Norway
Finland
Ireland
United Kingdom
Denmark
Poland
Belarus
Germany
Ukraine
France
Austria
Romania
Spain
Portugal
Italy
Greece
Türkiye
Syria
Iraq
Iran
Kazakhstan
Mongolia
Kyrgyzstan
Turkmenistan
Afghanistan
Pakistan
China
South Korea
Japan
India
Nepal
Myanmar (Burma)
Thailand
Vietnam
Philippines
Malaysia
Indonesia
Papua New Guinea
Australia
Saudi Arabia
Oman
Yemen
Tunisia
Morocco
Algeria
Libya
Egypt
Western Sahara
Mauritania
Mali
Niger
Chad
Sudan
Burkina Faso
Guinea
Nigeria
Ghana
Ethiopia
Somalia
Kenya
Gabon
DRC
Tanzania
Angola
Zambia
Mozambique
Namibia
Zimbabwe
Botswana
Madagascar
South Africa
United States
Mexico
Cuba
Puerto Rico
Guatemala
Nicaragua
Venezuela
Guyana
Suriname
Colombia
Ecuador
Peru
Brazil
Bolivia
Paraguay
Chile
Uruguay
Argentina
South Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean

UNLOCKING AFRICA AS A SUPERYACHT DESTINATION

The big Unknown
Promotion to crews and owners



VISITING SUPERYACHTS - Opportunities



Exposure
Scalability

VISITING SUPERYACHTS - Concerns



Range
Visiting berths
Service
Bunkering
Regulation

AFRICA – INFRASTRUCTURE & LOGISTICS

Boat deliveries
Parts & Equipment
Skilled technical support
Costs





REFIT & MAINTENANCE

Supporting the global superyacht fleet




UNLOCKING AFRICA AS A SUPERYACHT DESTINATION
Greenland
Iceland
Sweden
Norway
Finland
Ireland
United Kingdom
Denmark
Poland
Belarus
Germany
Ukraine
France
Austria
Romania
Spain
Portugal
Italy
Greece
Türkiye
Syria
Iraq
Iran
Kazakhstan
Mongolia
Kyrgyzstan
Turkmenistan
Afghanistan
Pakistan
China
South Korea
Japan
India
Nepal
Myanmar (Burma)
Thailand
Vietnam
Philippines
Malaysia
Indonesia
Papua New Guinea
Australia
Saudi Arabia
Oman
Yemen
Tunisia
Morocco
Algeria
Libya
Egypt
Western Sahara
Mauritania
Mali
Niger
Chad
Sudan
Burkina Faso
Guinea
Nigeria
Ghana
Ethiopia
Somalia
Kenya
Gabon
DRC
Tanzania
Angola
Zambia
Mozambique
Namibia
Zimbabwe
Botswana
Madagascar
South Africa
United States
Mexico
Cuba
Puerto Rico
Guatemala
Nicaragua
Venezuela
Guyana
Suriname
Colombia
Ecuador
Peru
Brazil
Bolivia
Paraguay
Chile
Uruguay
Argentina
South Atlantic Ocean
Indian Ocean


THANK YOU
Gulf Craft