



# ICOMIA The voice of the recreational boating industry worldwide for over 50 years

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MARINE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

In 1966, during the 5th Congress of the International Federation of Boat Show Organisers (IFBSO) the 'International Boating Trades Association' was formed - which later went on to become ICOMIA. During the IFBSO/ICOMIA Congress the following year, delegates from 16 countries approved ICOMIA's organisational plan and mission statement:

*"To promote boating as a leading international recreational activity by establishing the medium for the exchange of information on all matters related to the common interest, such as safety, quality, and marinas, so as to stimulate the sale and usage of boats and their equipment"*

From this grew ICOMIA as we know it today, with over 100 members including 37 marine industry associations. To this day, these focus-points remain the foundation upon which a successful boat friendly environment is built: Safety, Infrastructure and Awareness.



Current ICOMIA President Andrea Razeto (UCINA), with Vice-Presidents Sara Anghel (NMMA) and YP Loke (SBIA)

## ICOMIA's Committees over the years

### Original ICOMIA Committees

Standards and safety  
Boat Service  
Marina Development  
Promotion and Publicity  
Technical Research & Coordination

### ICOMIA groups today

Technical  
Grow Boating  
Marinas (IMG)  
Exporters  
Marine Engine (IMEC)  
Superyacht Refit Executive  
Coating Applicators  
Market Intelligence  
Environment  
Superyacht Division

## ICOMIA Marinas Group

Formed in 1969 when two committees - Boat Service and Marina Development - merged, the Marina Committee (now ICOMIA Marinas Group, IMG) had a powerful motto: *"Without facilities, pleasure boating is not able to expand in Europe"* – a statement today's IMG still agree with, however now on a global level. Recent outputs include policy papers on marina leases and peer-to-peer lending and the ICOMIA World Marinas Conference series.

## Market Intelligence

In 1975 the ICOMIA Annual Statistics Book was launched. Featuring figures obtained from across its global membership, the Statistics Book has been an invaluable tool for business planning for over 40-years. The latest Book can be purchased at [www.icomia.org](http://www.icomia.org)

## Environment

In 1991, the ICOMIA Environment Committee was formed. An initiative of HISWA, British Marine and NMMA, the committee was focused on the increasing environmental issues affecting the industry such as pollution, waste, anti-fouling and paint emissions. ICOMIA continues to provide its members with updates and advocate for the industry on these issues and more.

Initiatives over the years have included: Blue Flag (1995), Partnership with AkzoNobel (2005), Status stakeholder in several EU directives (2005), Solvent Emissions Directive calculation tool (2008), Technical Guideline on Minimum Acceptable Finish and Appearance for Superyacht Gloss Coatings (2011, updated 2018) and the ICOMIA Environment Guide (2013 – latest edition to be released soon).

## Technical

In 1967, the ICOMIA Safety Standard and Quality Committee produced the 'Rules for building small craft', followed by the 1969 ICOMIA Boating Safety Conference in Gothenburg. With Albert Cork (UK) as ICOMIA Technical Consultant, the Committee began its first ISO work in 1971.

ICOMIA championed the development of the RCD in the 1990s, which was fundamental to harmonize the EU market and it continues to advise on its development today. In 2008, ICOMIA published Global Conformity Guidelines – which help boat builders to export overseas by bridging the Trans-Atlantic gap between ABYC and ISO Standards.

Andy Williams, ICOMIA's representative at International Maritime Organization (IMO) says:

*"A key issue at the moment finding a solution to the Tier III NOx emissions regulations for yachts over 24m and under 500GT. We believe that the technical and socio-economic impacts of additional requirements that the regulation would create would negatively impact our industry if implemented by 2021. This topic comes under the work of the Marine Environment Protection Committee at IMO and the PPR Sub-Committee so attendance at these meetings is critical, as is the submission of substantive papers to raise awareness of the industry's concerns and to provide options for a route forward. The key to success lies in presenting a strong technical argument" and partnering with Member States with a strong interest in our industry."*

## The future of ICOMIA

In 2016 ICOMIA celebrated 50 years at the IFBSO/ ICOMIA Congress hosted by UCINA Confindustria Nautica, the Italian Marine Industry Association (gala dinner pictured right).



From humble beginnings with grand ideas, ICOMIA has always been at the forefront of the industry. Today membership is estimated to represent more than 80% of the world's leisure boating business. After 53 years its goals essentially remain the same:

***"To act internationally on behalf of all those concerned for the boating industry's continued success and the public's ability to enjoy boating at all levels in a clean environment"***