



PRESS RELEASE

31/01/2014

-OPENS-

BURGESS MARINE PROUDLY LAUNCHES 'PROJECT NELSON'.

- NEW BUILD MODERN CLASSIC TO BE BUILT IN PORTSMOUTH -

Burgess Marine is proud to promote the UK's last large independent Superyacht ship building facility. Trafalgar Wharf, at Portchester, is to be the birth place of Project Nelson, a 'Best of British' modern take on a classic Gentleman's Motor Yacht. The facility which is currently leased by Shemara Refit LLP (for the refit of the 1938, 65m, Superyacht MY Shemara) becomes available in June of this year as does the design team and the production expertise and infrastructure that have supported the aforementioned unique refit; many of the SRIIP team have indicated their willingness to support Project Nelson and ship building at the site.

Burgess Marine and Laurent Giles seek an enthusiastic Owner, keen to be integrally involved, with an outstanding passion for all things 'Best of British'. The project will be structured in an entirely unique fashion and will continue to challenge the conventional way of Superyacht building.

Project Nelson fully intends to utilise newly available local ship building labour and regional industry expertise; there is also the potential to utilise excess new build capacity within HM Naval Base Portsmouth.

Nicholas Warren, the MD of Burgess Marine comments in respect to ship building in Portsmouth: "There is a huge opportunity to capitalise on the expertise and passion for ship building in and around this great maritime city - as an industry we should be able to make this work. Companies like Laurent Giles, Canark Marine, Trimline, and Jack Tighes all have tremendous ship building experience and if we can find an Owner or Head of State interested in Project Nelson and ship building in Portsmouth then I am sure that we can deliver a superb product. The work of The Portsmouth Ship Building UK Group has to date been fantastic; all we need is a credible project.

He goes on to say "The opportunity presented, especially to the Superyacht industry, by the Owner of Shemara and the unique organisational 'make-up' of the project is phenomenal and one that simply cannot be ignored. It's been proven that if you have willing and enthusiastic Owner anything can be achieved. You can build your own Superyacht, to the very highest of standards, and keep complete control of both the project and all the costs associated with the build; it's not the normal way of doing things but it really does work. Project Nelson, and the 'Best of British' concept is a wonderful opportunity and we are absolutely thrilled to be involved".

David Lewis, the MD of Laurent Giles goes on to say: “The facility in Portchester is unique, as is this approach. We’ve designed a superb yacht, to the very highest of modern standards. With our high level of expertise and experience and with Burgess’s engineering knowledge and know-how the end result is sure to be mind-blowing whether it is built in Portchester or Portsmouth. The opportunity to work so closely with an Owner or Head of State and in such an original fashion is hugely appealing too. Project Nelson will be a fantastic experience for all those involved”.

Ship building in Portsmouth is a huge part of British maritime history which Burgess Marine and Laurent Giles remain eager to protect and enthused to re-invigorate. Initial design work has been undertaken by Laurent Giles. Image attached.

-ENDS-

Burgess Marine



Burgess Marine is at the forefront of the specialised marine engineering industry, having earned a worldwide reputation as experts in all aspects of structural repairs and renewals as well as mechanical repairs both above and below the waterline.

With workshops and offices in Dover, Portsmouth, Portchester ([Rolls Royce Syncrolift](#)), Southampton, Poole, Avonmouth, Devonport and within STP Palma the business is ideally located not only to support the UK's largest passenger ports, but also shipping in general throughout the busy English Channel and Superyacht's based in Mallorca.

From its head office in Dover, Burgess Marine also provides highly skilled teams capable of carrying out planned refits and emergency works worldwide, having worked extensively throughout Europe and the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Far East, North America, South America and the Caribbean.

The combined marine engineering experience of the Directors and Technical Management within Burgess Marine exceeds some 250 years; it is this level of knowledge and experience, together with complete commitment, that gives customers total peace of mind and Burgess Marine the leading edge.

Burgess Marine is an ISO 9001:2008 British Standards Institute accredited company and holds 'DNV Approved Supplier' status; the company is also a full member of the Association of Diving Contractors. [Click here](#) to view all accreditations and policies.

Website: www.burgessmarine.co.uk

Contact number: Mr Nicholas Warren - 0845 8732 222.

Laurent Giles

Laurent Giles is a dynamic firm of Naval Architects and yacht designers continuing to drive the boundaries of yacht design through technology. We provide professional independent Naval Architecture and Yacht Design services to private clients, Yacht Management companies, Brokers and Yards.

With a solid foundation of experience built up over eighty five years and over 1300 designs, we are able to offer our Clients a complete yacht design service from concept realisation, development, Naval Architecture and engineering design through to in-build evaluation and independent project support.

Laurent Giles Naval Architects was founded in 1927 and has been in continuous business since then and is one of the oldest firms of Naval Architects in the world. Since 1927 Laurent Giles have maintained a diverse portfolio of commercial vessels, pleasure yachts, racing yachts, tall ships and Superyachts.

In more recent years the company has specialised in the design and naval architecture services for superyachts, however the companies first superyacht experience and design goes back to a 49m two masted schooner "White Gull" built by Benetti in the late 1980s. This was followed by the Australian built 59m award winning 17 knot aluminium shoal draft, jet propelled motor sailer 'Islander'. A period of sailing yacht design included seven 34m sailing yachts being built in Italy. Laurent Giles were the lead Naval Architects for the rebuild of U.S.S. Williamsburg, President Harry Truman's State Yacht.

Significant large projects have been undertaken in last ten years. These include MY Samar in 2006, a 120m M/Y being built in Greece, award winning MY Stella Maris a 72m built in Italy.

Web site: www.laurentgiles.co.uk

Contact: Mr David Lewis - 01590 641 777.