



**PRESS RELEASE**

**-OPENS-**

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**- MEERCAT WORKBOATS MOVES, DELIVERS TWO NEW BUILDS  
AND SECURES A NEW 15m ORDER FOR ABP SOUTHAMPTON -**

***[Meercat Workboats](#) has this month moved from Portchester to new, purpose built premises in Hythe Marine Park, Southampton. To coincide with the move the company's management team has been restructured, two new vessels have been delivered and one new order confirmed.***

The new site is 1,600 sqm, has two 20-tonne gantry cranes, a machine shop, an electrical workshop, a hydraulic workshop, aluminum welding bays, steel fabrication bays, dedicated stores, offices and customer parking.

Late in September Meercat Workboats delivered two new build vessels; MC26 into the Aquaculture sector and MC28 to a Marine Civils Contractor. The company has relocated in time to conclude two further builds - MC27 (a 14m workboat) and MC29 (a 15m workboat). The team are also pursuing prospects for House Boats, Pontoons and Barges both locally and further afield.

The newly restructured management team includes Mr Jason Coltman, who has recently returned to the business fresh from a summer sabbatical.

As part of the restructuring three new roles have been created; Mr Ric Haselhurst has taken on the role of Production Manager and Mr Jim Mair the role of Technical Manager and Mr Tim Baily the role of Project Manager. All four are key stakeholders in the business and will be the principle drivers of the business moving forward.

Mr Nicholas Warren, the CEO of [Burgess Marine](#), the parent company of Meercat Workboats comments: "the move is exactly what the business needs. Meercat is a growing business and we need a dedicated site and a dedicated management team. I've complete confidence in Jason, Ric, Jim and Tim as they lead the business going forward; they really are masters of their own destiny. They're key stakeholders in the newly restructured company and I firmly believe that they can grow the company effectively and independently".

He goes on to say: "Burgess Marine is a business that's been built by individuals that genuinely do care. The same care and attention goes into each and every Meercat and it's that passion that gives me complete confidence in the new management team and the business. Across the Group we're investing in plant, equipment and accreditation and we see Southampton and the Solent as the focal point for all our key initiatives".

Jason Coltman comments: "it's great to be back in the boat building business and overtime Ric, Jim, Tim and I, along with the entire team here at Meercat fully intend to develop the Meercat brand and product range to be the very best in the workboat business".

He goes on to say: "We're newly independent and entirely committed to building both the business and our own standalone reputation. We've proven this by succeeding in a hard-fought pan-European public tender for ABP's new Southampton based workboat. This vessel, hull number MC30, will be a 15m boat and she'll be built right here in Southampton and delivered to the port early in the New Year".

He concludes by adding: "Whilst we're intent on building more traditional Meercat's we've also got pontoons, tugs, barges, house boats, RIB's and landing craft on the near horizon and some very exciting core Meercat product develop to include hybrid propulsion for the aquaculture sector - watch this space!".

**-ENDS-**

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## Burgess Marine

Burgess Marine is at the forefront of the specialised marine engineering and services 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 Lowestoft, Dover, Portsmouth, Portchester, 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 United Kingdom and Superyacht's based in Western Mediterranean.

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 business has three further tranches; it focuses on marine procurement for the Superyacht, commercial and cruise ship sectors via 'Global New Builds' and 'Global Services', it builds workboats under the 'Meercat Workboats' brand from a dedicated new build location in Hythe, Southampton, and technically supports the operation of Superyachts under the 'Trafalgar Yacht Support' brand.

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 committed to operating within the parameters of leading international management system standards and is therefore accredited to ISO 9001 (Quality), ISO 14001 (Environmental) and BS OHSAS 18001 (Health and Safety) respectively.

Additionally, accreditations are held with Bureau Veritas and DNV in relation to Diving Operations. More recently, Burgess Marine has embarked on the journey to gain 'fit for nuclear' (F4N) status with the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC). Burgess Marine operates across multiple industrial sectors and therefore maintains approval with JOSCAR (aerospace, defence and security sectors), Achilles UVDB (utilities sector) and PICS (aggregates sector). Click here to view all accreditations and policies.

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