



PRESS RELEASE—*For Immediate Release*

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2012 ISS Yacht Design & Superyacht Industry Awards of Distinction

“World Adventures” Theme of Annual Gala

15 May 2012, Fort Lauderdale, FL: Now in its 22nd year of presenting yacht builders, designers and industry leaders with the highest accolades presented on the global superyacht stage, ISS continues to fulfil its mandate to recognize outstanding achievement. All ISS awards—in the *Design, Leadership* and *Awards of Distinction* categories—are based purely on peer-review. ISS’s *International Awards for Design and Leadership* has remained the first and longest running awards program in the large yacht industry and one that continues to adopt a wholly unbiased nomination and selection format.

ISS yacht awards honour the previous year’s greatest achievements in design as determined by some of the superyacht industry’s most accomplished professionals. New last year, ISS added a *Best Yacht Refit* award to reflect ISS’s awareness of marketplace trends. Eligible refit yachts must meet the following description to be considered as nominees:

“ISS Best Yacht Refit Award vessels must include a complete design update with substantial changes to interior and exterior structure, outfit and finish that enhance yacht function, performance and aesthetic appeal.”

Registration of yachts is handled by builders, architects and designers who receive communication from ISS which includes detailed instructions. These stakeholders should contact the ISS office, info@superyachtsociety.com, if they have not yet received the specific website link.

Owners and industry alike can prepare to enjoy a truly festive Gala on 25 October 2012. The Gala Committee—comprised of some of the most notable names in the industry—has plans well underway. Embracing the theme “*World Adventures*,” the committee strives to present a milieu fitting the splendour of design, the measure of leadership and the glamour of yachting.

Festivities will again be at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort in Fort Lauderdale. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be held during the evening in the glow of the sunset on the Ocean View Terrace. The awards presentation follows in the adjacent ballroom and the evening concludes on the terrace with dessert and aperitifs and the Cigar Bar—a great hit year after year.

In addition to yacht recognition, ISS will also present its highly anticipated *Awards of Distinction*—the ISS Leadership, Innovation, Business (Person) of the Year, Distinguished Crew Awards and the ISS Fabien Cousteau Blue Award which celebrates personal excellence, innovation and environmental stewardship respectively.

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About International Supervacht Society

ISS was founded in 1989 and represents the large yacht industry. Its fundamental mission is to build alliances worldwide with regional associations; to serve as communications conduit for issues affecting the marketplace, owners, crew and industry members; and to recognize achievement as well as provide educational opportunities and networking events.

Each year ISS presents its peer-reviewed Design and Leadership Awards, which recognize individuals and companies for their expertise, leadership and dedication to raising the standards of design, construction, maintenance, repair and operation of large yachts.

Networking and educational programs are conducted internationally and include open forums, informal gatherings and round-tables.

It is ISS's priority to foster dialogue among Society members and others in the large yacht segment of the marine industry, leading to the strengthening and growth of the business interests of Society members and the industry as a whole.