



RECORD SALES FOR SEAWIND AT SANCTUARY COVE, SEAWIND 1160 WINS USA REGATTA AND MORE

Seawind catamarans have recorded the most successful boat show in the 25 years of the company's history, selling no less than 11 boats totalling close to \$5million at the Sanctuary Cove Boat Show on Australia's Gold Coast.

This included 6 x Seawind 1160's and 5 x Seawind 1000XL's which clearly indicates that both models are in stronger demand than ever and has prompted the Seawind factory to further increase production output of the new Seawind 1000XL.

With the launch of the new Seawind 1000XL at the boat show, more than 20 boats have now been sold taking this iconic cruising catamaran to a new phase of production.

SEAWIND 1160 WINS DELTA DITCH REGATTA, SAN FRANCISCO

Seawind 1160 "Serenity" owner Mike Ropers along with Seawind dealer Gary Helms have overcome the odds to convincingly win the multihull division of the well attended "Delta Ditch" regatta from San Francisco. Winning by a corrected 54 minutes ahead of the next closest multihull, the Seawind 1160 beat various other multi's include several Corsair F27 trimarans in heavy conditions.

Californian based Seawind dealer, Gary Helms expressed the joy of showing up a few of the San Franciscan monohull traditionalists, "The big fun was to watch the expression of disbelief as we slid past the hundred or so monohull racers. The tradition of starting the multi's 15 to 20 minutes behind the first starters gave us a long line of boats to pass along the way. It was wet and very windy. Most of the small boat sailors clung to the rail, feet dangling over the side, with a blank, "this can't be happening look in their eyes".

Out of the 120 monohull boats entered our elapsed time (time on the course) was less than all

but 7 of them. We blasted past J-105's, Express 34's, Beneteau 42's, Express 37's, a Serendipity 43, a Davidson 44 and a Farr 52. It was kind-of-a "Back to the Future" episode. A bunch of old guys, sitting on the back porch, patio door open, lounging on a swede couch, sipping on a cocktail, sailing past on their condo-maran.

The big boat drivers tried to ignore us. You could see the unpleasant grimus and the teeth gnarling as they hoped to luff us up."

SEAWIND CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

Seawind Catamarans, Australia's largest manufacturer of cruising catamarans, celebrate 25 years of non-stop business with owner and Managing Director, Richard Ward at the helm.

In February 1982 Richard started his boat building business following several years at sea cruising through the South Pacific, after his earlier career as a Chartered Accountant working for firms including Arthur Andersen.

Richard comments, "The boating industry is quite fickle at the best of times, however it's through our innovation in design and construction plus a superior quality finish that keeps us growing both in Australia and internationally."

Early success was gained with manufacturing smaller beach catamarans including the extremely popular Maricats and the Seawind 24 which had been built since the 1970's. From here the company grew and started building larger custom designed catamarans including the 65ft Sydney Crystal and the lightning fast Formula 40 catamaran.

However the biggest breakthroughs came in the early nineties with the launch of the 28ft Seawind 850 which was an instant success and lead the way for the award winning Seawind 1000 that was launched in 1994, winning Australia's Boat of the Year which was the first time the award had been given to a catamaran.

This model continues to be very popular with over 170 boats now sold and carries the unique combined saloon and cockpit that has become Seawind's trademark.

Other models including the Seawind 1200 and Seawind 1050 Resort plus the Venturer power catamarans have all been recent models built by Seawind, but the Seawind 1160 leads the way as Seawind's next big success story being recognized in Australia and the USA as a winning formula.

The Seawind 1160 was judged as both 'Best Multihull Cruiser' and 'Most Innovative' in the USA for 2007 by the Cruising World Magazine. The Seawind 1160 has also won the 'Best Sailboat' of the Newport International Boat Show in 2006, plus the 'Australia's Best Sailboat of 2005' by the Australian Marine Industry Federation (AMIF).

Seawind were also recently recognized as the 'Best Overall Business', 'Best Manufacturer' and 'Best Innovation' by the Illawarra Business Chamber in 2006 for the outstanding success the company has achieved and the employment and economic activity that Seawind have brought to the local economy. Seawind currently employ 80 staff including 13 apprentices with another six having been recruited for 2007.