



Surveying *your future...*

A survey could be the most valuable part of any boat purchase. Will Henderson of Henderson International tells us why.

Will, please briefly introduce yourself to the readers.

I've been in the region since 1985, working in ship repair. I started out in the UK as an engineer apprentice with BP and went to sea with them for eight or nine years. I then worked on merchant ships until I came to the Gulf for the role of Superintendent for Abu Dhabi National Tanker company, before moving on to Al Bawardi Marine. I love living here, so stayed and started Henderson Marine in 1993.

What kind of work do you carry out at Henderson International?

Essentially we have three divisions. The yachts division handles the project management of large yachts here, in Europe and in the USA. The engineering division is involved in building and the refurbishing of boats. The survey division deals with inspections for pre-purchase, insurance, damage assessment and the like.

Focussing on the later, why would I need a boat surveyed?

Many people will only commission a survey when required to do so by their insurers, but in reality, anyone considering the purchase of

a boat should invest in a survey. In today's economic climate you need to protect your money, a pre-purchase survey is even more essential.

What size boats justify getting a survey done?

There's not a starting value or size, because a boat purchase will generally reflect the same approximate proportion of a person's income – whether you're a multi-millionaire buying a megayacht or middle management buying a ski-boat, neither can afford to buy problems. We survey sportsboats, cruisers, motoryachts, sailboats, super, mega and gigayachts. Also, both new and used boats require surveys - builders can make mistakes, and some new boats may not have been maintained properly while sitting on the water for months or years waiting for a buyer.

Are there different kinds of surveys you can have done?

There is the pre-purchase survey which will identify the good points and bad points of the craft in question. Through this the potential owner will have a very good idea of any problems that should need