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**IBEX 2016 OFFERS EXCITING NETWORKING EVENTS FOR MARINE PROFESSIONALS
TO CONNECT, MEET, AND MINGLE AT UPCOMING EVENT IN TAMPA**

Haimes Coleman Group to offer Marine Dealer Tech Tour

BROOKLIN, ME AUGUST 16, 2016 – From the Industry Breakfast to Opening Night Party at the Sail Pavilion, and dozens of additional events, The International BoatBuilders' Exhibition and Conference (IBEX), will be the place for marine industry professional to connect and network during the three-day event, taking place from October 4 – 6 at the Tampa Convention Center.

"We are thrilled to be bringing IBEX back to Tampa and offering our attendees and exhibitors a terrific venue and host city where everyone can enjoy easy access to the show and after hours networking opportunities at dozens of special events that are scheduled all over downtown each night," said Anne Dunbar, IBEX Show Director. "We kick things off on Sunday afternoon with IBEX at the Buccaneers NFL game against the Denver Broncos, followed by a great day of Super Sessions on Monday and an action packed opening day filled with our Industry Breakfast, the Opening Night Party at the Sail Pavilion. IBEX is famous for its after hour interactions and this year is no exception."

For attendees coming into town on Sunday afternoon, October 2nd, join IBEX at the **Bucs vs. Broncos NFL Football game** at 4:00 pm and receive special savings. [Click here](#) and enter the promo code: IBEX for ticket sales. For suite rental information or groups of 10 or more, contact Erin Porco at eporco@buccaneers.nfl.com or call 813-998-3841.

On Tuesday, October 4th from 7:30-9:30 am, IBEX will kick off with the **IBEX Industry Breakfast & Innovation Awards** with Keynote Speaker Shark Tank's Kevin Harrington, sponsored by Lippert Components and Furrion and Southco Inc., taking place at the Tampa Waterside Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom. Attendees will enjoy a delicious hot breakfast while hearing about the State of the Industry delivered by Thom Dammrich, NMMA President, followed by several short presentations of important industry awards including the prestigious IBEX Innovation Awards. Tickets are \$35/per person and available when you [register](#) for IBEX, or by calling 484-751-5135.

After an action packed day on the show floor, attendees, exhibitors, speakers, and the press are invited to the **Opening Night Party at the Sail Pavilion** starting at 6:00 pm to celebrate the opening day of IBEX, just outside of the convention center. Drink specials, live entertainment, and a food truck bazaar will keep the excitement of the opening day going into the evening and on into the night.

On Tuesday evening from 5-6 pm, there will be a series of **Composite Tech Talks** at the Future Materials Display within the Composite Pavilion on the show floor. Speakers will

share their knowledge and take time to answer questions from attendees about cutting edge materials and processes for new opportunities in marine composites. The event is sponsored by Composites One and Magnum Venus Products.

On Wednesday, October 5th American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) will host the annual "**Coffee and Compliance**" networking session. Attendees can meet with experts in marine certification and standards for informal networking to discuss current trends and compliance issues affecting the industry. Exhibitors are invited from 9-11:00 am; all attendees are welcome from 10-11:00 am. Contact Shannon Seipp for more information at sseipp@abycinc.org.

A new feature to the show is the **Haimes Coleman Group Marine Dealer Tech Tour**. On Wednesday and Thursday hundreds of dealers will enjoy a guided tour through the IBEX show floor focusing on new and innovative products and presentations. Participants are also invited to a Happy Hour and Networking Event. Dealers in the Southern US interested in registering should contact Gayle Marshall at gmarshall@haimescolemangrp.com or call 954-845-0311.

Several Tampa area restaurants and bars will offer **IBEX attendee specials** with an IBEX Badge. After Hours Networking Destinations include Splitsville in Channelside, offering bowling, billiards and a great menu; Ferg's Live, offering a DJ with Karaoke and live country bands; and The WXYZ Bar at the Aloft Tampa Downtown is a great place to mix, meet, and mingle over cocktails. Trolley service is available from the convention center to several locations. More information about the networking events can be found at <http://www.ibexshow.com/special-events-demos/>.

About the International BoatBuilders' Exhibition & Conference (IBEX)

IBEX, Where Better Boats Begin (www.ibexshow.com), is the marine industry's largest technical trade event, owned and produced by *Professional BoatBuilder* magazine and the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), and annually gathers thousands of industry professionals. *Professional BoatBuilder* (www.proboat.com), a boatbuilding-industry trade magazine, was first published in 1989 in response to a growing need for a dedicated forum for those working in design, construction, and repair and has a worldwide readership exceeding 24,000. **The National Marine Manufacturers Association** (www.nmma.org) is the leading association for the North American recreational boating industry whose member companies produce more than 80 percent of the boats engines, trailers, accessories, and gear used by boaters in North America.

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