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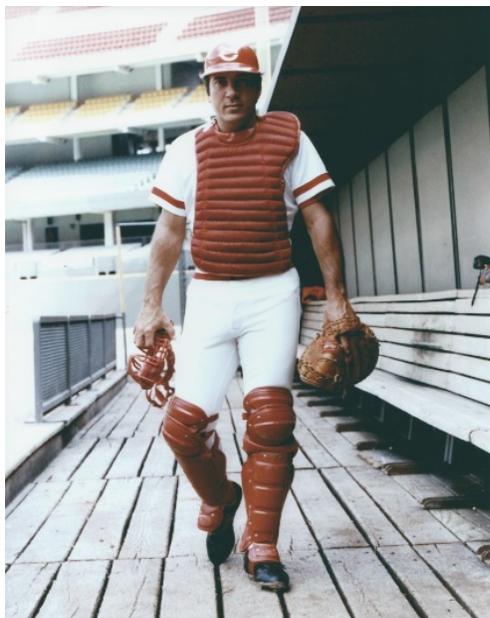
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RENOWNED BASEBALL CATCHER JOHNNY BENCH TO KEYNOTE 2015 INTERNATIONAL BOATBUILDERS' EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE INDUSTRY BREAKFAST

State of the Industry address and prestigious industry awards to be included as well

BROOKLIN, ME, July 7, 2015 – Make plans now to attend the IBEX Industry Breakfast and Innovation Awards Presentation which will feature a motivational keynote presentation by National Baseball Hall of Fame Player Johnny Bench.

“Johnny Bench is a symbol of winning through hard work and teamwork as outlined in his keynote presentation featuring, *The Vowels of Success*, and we are thrilled to welcome the Catcher of the Century to deliver the keynote address at the annual IBEX Industry Breakfast,” noted NMMA President Thom Dammrich. “Johnny’s impressive record on and off the baseball field illustrates his dedication to his team and the game, all values which will resonate with our attendees who will be inspired by his drive to succeed.”



Elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in January 1989, Bench is undoubtedly the greatest catcher ever as stated by the *Sporting News* in late 1998, in which Johnny was named the 16th greatest player of all time – His successes include National League Rookie of the Year (1968), National League Most Valuable Players (1970 & 1972), World Series MVP (1976), 14-time All-Star, and 10 Gold Gloves. In 1980, Bench set an endurance record by catching 100 or more games for 13 consecutive seasons. Then, in 1999 Johnny received baseball’s esteemed honor of selection to the All-Century Team on October 24. Over the years, Johnny has maintained a sense of balance by using his celebrity status to aid such worthy causes as the Heart Association, the American Cancer Society (as past National Chairman of Athletes vs. Cancer), the Kidney Foundation, Franciscan Sisters of Poor Health System, the American Lung Association, and the ‘Catch the Cure’

program of the Children’s Hospital of Cincinnati.

“We know our attendees and exhibitors will be inspired and motivated by Johnny Bench and we thank our Industry Breakfast sponsor the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) for partnering with us to offer an exciting way to begin IBEX 2015,” said Anne Dunbar, IBEX Show Director. “The IBEX Industry Breakfast is always a highlight of the show and we encourage people to register early, as this event will surely sell out.”

The IBEX Industry Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, September 15th from 7:30 – 9:30 am at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. To register as an attendee for IBEX and purchase tickets for the industry breakfast, [click here](#). Exhibitors and booth staff interested in registering or adding Industry Breakfast tickets should [click here](#). For questions, please contact [Joanne Miller](#), 312-946-6245.

In addition to a world class keynote speaker, Thom Dammrich, NMMA President will deliver the State of the Industry address followed by the presentation of The IBEX Innovation Awards, which acknowledge the importance of technological advancements in the marine industry. Exhibitors interested in submitting their products please note the **deadline to enter is August 12, 2015**. For more information, visit the [show website](#).

Several other prestigious marine industry awards will also be presented during the Industry Breakfast including:

- NMMA Hall of Fame Award
- Boat US Life Jacket Design competition winner
- Boating Industry Mover and Shaker of the Year
- Mel Barr Award will be presented by National Marine Representatives Association (NMRA)
- NMMA CSI Awards
- There will be a special addition to the Industry Breakfast presentation this year as IBEX will recognize its Silver Exhibitors, companies who have exhibited at all 25 IBEX shows.

The International BoatBuilders' Exhibition and Conference (IBEX), Where Better Boats Begin, is the leading industry event for the marine industry. The event offers the IBEX Education Program including the Seminar Series, Super Sessions, and the Exhibitor Workshop Theater; hundreds of new products being displayed by 500+ exhibitors on the show floor; feature areas including Future Materials, The Connected Boat Interactive Display, Innovation Way, IBEX 3D Digital Workshop, and the MakerMobile Trailer; Pavilions on the Show Floor including the Composites, Electronics, and Compliance and Standards - as well as the IBEX Fleet and Industry Networking Events including the IBEX Industry Breakfast and Innovation Awards Presentation, Composite Challenge & Cocktail Competition, Bourbon & Brew Happy Hour, the Opening Night Party on Fourth St. Live, and the Rock the Yacht Concert (tickets needed).

About IBEX: Owned and produced by *Professional BoatBuilder* magazine and the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), IBEX is the marine industry's largest technical trade event. For boatbuilders, marine industry dealers, aftermarket suppliers and buyers, designers, repairers, surveyors, and boatyard/marine operators, IBEX is where better boats begin. For the latest information, visit www.ibexshow.com.

About *Professional BoatBuilder* magazine: *Professional BoatBuilder*, a boatbuilding-industry trade magazine, was first published in 1989 in response to a growing need for a dedicated forum for boatbuilding-related professionals. The magazine's worldwide readership exceeds 24,000. *Professional BoatBuilder* is online at www.proboat.com.

About NMMA: The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is the leading association for the North American recreational boating industry. NMMA member companies produce more than 80 percent of the boats, engines, trailers, accessories and gear used by boaters in North America. The association is dedicated to industry growth through programs in public policy advocacy, market statistics and research, product quality assurance and promotion of the boating lifestyle. Learn more at www.nmma.org.