

by Roxanne Fraver

Experience and Innovation Push CABO to Top



RF: What is the nature of your company?

TY: Since 1991, CABO Yachts has established itself as a powerhouse among builders of premium quality sport

fishing boats. This is a remarkable feat in an industry where history isn't measured by decades, but by generations. CABO Yachts has accomplished so much in so little time through its goal to "build the best sportfishers money can buy." This principal was put into effect before the first boat was ever delivered and continues to be CABO's operating principal towards which all activity is focused.

RF: How many employees do you have?

TY: Today, after only 15 years since its' founding, CABO employs over 500 skilled craftsmen and will this year deliver the 1,000th sportfisher from its boat building facility in Adelanto, CA. New designs on the boards and in process will necessitate doubling the number of employees over the next 3 and a half to 4 years.

RF: What is your company's background?

TY: CABO Yachts founders Henry Mohrschladt and Michael Howarth are no newcomers to the boating industry. Their start in the industry over 30 years ago saw their first venture, Pacific Seacraft Corp. grow to dominate the market for offshore cruising sailboats with a reputation for quality workmanship, rugged construction and vessels capable of global voyaging. In 1988, *Fortune* magazine named Mohrschladt's and

Howarth's company builder one of America's top 100 quality products, an honor that brought the attention of a large multinational buyer who convinced the pair to sell Pacific Seacraft. Although the company was sold, Mohrschladt and Howarth were not ready to give up their passion for building boats. After two years of researching the market for various designs, they settled on building high performance inboard diesel sportfishing boats and CABO Yachts was born with its first model, the CABO 35.

Tim Young, CCT Marine
CABO Yachts, Inc.
Adelanto, CA
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RF: How has your company evolved from its beginnings?

TY: CABO Yachts challenged long-established marks in the industry with its new line of sportfishers and by aggressively developing new models. Today the company builds nine different models from 32 to 52 feet. This year CABO will build boats for sportfishing enthusiasts from Japan and Australia in the Pacific to Italy and Dubai in the Mediterranean.

RF: What are your marketing efforts?

TY: CABO has become known worldwide through an aggressive advertising program in sportfishing publications and by displaying its product around the world at marine expositions and international boat shows. But today, the word on the docks is that if you want the best built boat for serious offshore sportfishing then look no further than to CABO Yachts.


RF: How did you get started in the industry?

TY: I began my career in composites manufacturing in 1968, sweeping the floors at Glastron/Carlson Boat Company in Orange County, California, working for Art Carlson for 12 years. I didn't think I would ever finish sweeping the floor!

RF: What obstacles does your company face today in the regulatory or technical arenas?

TY: Southern California has always been a harsh climate for the composites industry. The decision to locate the business was driven by the acceptance of an adjacent Air District with less stringent controls. In fact, we have a very close working relationship with the regulators and as a result they are proactive in recognizing our expansion and the resulting beneficial impact on the economic development of our local community. Of immediate concern to us is the pending legislation at both the State and Federal levels to further regulate styrene.

RF: What development or research would you like to see happen to improve the industry?

TY: Processes and materials that reduce VOCs in the workplace affording enhanced worker health and safety plus improving the impact on our environment. Also, addressing the issue of risk management as it relates specifically to the composites industry as a whole instead of sub grouping it into other unrelated industries would be nice. 

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