

BOATBUILDERS | ITALY

has been acquired by Sanlorenzo.

A notable over the past year has been the launch by CBI Navi of the 39.6m explorer yacht *Stella di Mare*. Under yard number CBN45 this superyacht has been completed for a European customer. This project was originally placed with Mondomarine in 2015 but when that yard ran into trouble it was transferred to CBI.

**GRAND SOLEIL YACHTS/  
CANTIERE DEL PARDO**

The early part of 2019 has a focus on new developments for Grand Soleil.

At Boot Düsseldorf the company showed off a previously unreleased version of its 16m (52ft) Long Cruise model. This was followed shortly after by the technical launch in Ancona of its 24.5m (80ft) GS Custom 80 yacht *Essentia*, the first hull of this new line for the company. The GS80 is a full carbon craft which was built after two years of research and development.

At the 2018 Cannes show Grand Soleil had held the global launch of its full carbon GS48 model. Some weeks after the show a corporate move within the company saw the acquisition through a management buyout of Cantiere del Pardo. Fabio Planamente and Luigi Servidati as CEO and chairman of Grand Soleil respectively, had become the majority shareholders of Cantiere del Pardo.

As part of this transaction, a €5m increase in share capital will support the future activities of both companies to expand the shipyard capacity and further develop both brands.

**HERON YACHTS**

Heron Yachts, based close to Rome, is a new brand that over the past three years has built a capacity to build craft between 10m (33ft) and 21.5m (70ft). The company is developing a series of innovative sporty cruisers providing a mix of performance and comfort matching speed with low fuel consumption.

Its first model was the 17.9m Heron 56 motor yacht, designed by naval architect Massimo Picco of Picco Yacht Design. Its unique hull guarantees minimal drag, limited fuel consumption and excellent performance levels with moderately

powered engines. The Heron 56 is equipped with two 435hp Volvo Penta IPS600 engines for a top speed of 32.5kt.

The Heron 38 was the brand's second model designed by the same team. A further larger model is being planned.

**INVICTUS YACHT**

The consistent story of new models and increased build capacity continues at Invictus Yacht. In just over four years since this brand launched, its southern Italian shipyard's strategic capacity to manage production on a semi-industrial scale allows it to build approximately 300 units per year. The Borgia facility is now up to 18,000m<sup>2</sup> of which 7,000m<sup>2</sup> is undercover.

In terms of new models, the GT320 had its world premiere at Cannes 2018 as a comfortable day/weekend cruiser. It comes with single or twin engines giving various power options. This is the third model in Invictus's popular GT range.

In total, Invictus now offers 13 models comprising the T and X series. The T range includes the GT and TT series; both of which are characterised by the iconic reverse bow. The X range with its CX, FX, SX and HX series, is designed for owners who love the sea and enjoy relaxing.

At Boot Düsseldorf 2019 it was

announced that another new model, the CX270, would be globally launched at Cannes in September. The shipyard is also working to present an electric boat plus a new model that will complete the T series and be its flagship.

In terms of sales Invictus has focused on European markets and some others like Australia but kept away from the US until it feels ready to take on that market. The best way to enter that market is currently being reviewed.

In another development Atelier Invictus has been formed to increase the customisation possibilities to a higher level by offering its customers a network of specialised craftsmen and highly-qualified suppliers.

**ITALIA YACHTS**

In 2018 Italia Yachts expanded its product portfolio with launch of its new 11.98 model line, a 12m (39ft) family of vessels developed to comply with ORC and IRC rules. Specifically designed to be flexible for those that want a mix of racing and cruising features, the 11.98 family combines the latest in hydrodynamics research with clean design, easy handling and a luxurious and efficient layout.

The 11.98 Series will be available in two



▲ Shaking on the deal: David Walters Yachts now represents Italia Yachts in the US

The very first figures of the 59<sup>th</sup> Genoa Boat Show:

19-24 SEPTEMBER 2019

S<sup>59</sup> salonenautico