



Marine Industries Association  
of South Florida  
Since 1961

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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July 12, 2018

**MARINE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2018-2019 AND ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS**

Fort Lauderdale, FL – The Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) recently held an election for the 2018-2019 Board of Directors. MIASF members re-elected Dean DuToit of National Marine Suppliers and Walter Duke of Walter Duke + Partners for a term that began as of July 1st. Newly-elected members, each serving a two-year term, are Andrew Doole of Informa, Aaron Leatherwood of RMK Merrill-Stevens, and Garnett Byrd of Marquipt, Inc. Bert Fowles of IGY Marinas and Gail Ellis of Land N Sea retired from the Board.

“We are looking forward to working with our new directors, who join a dynamic team of executive officers and leaders in the marine industry who continue to drive our progress,” said Phil Purcell, MIASF CEO and president. “The MIASF Board is critical to the planning of annual events and activities, like the Plywood Regatta, the Broward County Waterway Cleanup, and of course the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, but beyond that they help us protect and promote the marine industry’s regional \$11.5 billion economic impact and its 136,000 employees,” he added.

The annual Golden Anchor Award was presented to Andrew Cilla of Luke Brown Yachts for his more than 45 years of dedicated experience in the marine industry as both a yacht broker and owner of a major yacht brokerage firm. Karen Reese, Business Outreach and FTZ Administrator for the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, was a recipient of an Award of Excellence for her diligence in partnering with MIASF to secure the first recreational marine Foreign Trade Zone in the country. An Award of Excellence was also presented to Bill Walker of the Water Taxi for his community and industry support and sharing his vast knowledge and expertise to educate the next generation. The member companies that joined MIASF in sponsoring a second home build with Habitat for Humanity Broward were each recognized and awarded with the Project of Excellence. They are: High Seas Yacht Services, Frank & Jimmie’s Propeller, Ward’s Marine Electric, Advanced Mechanical Enterprises, Maritime Professional Training, and Neptune Boat Lifts.

For more information visit [www.miasf.org](http://www.miasf.org).

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The Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) is the largest trade organization in the Southeast United States dedicated to promoting, protecting, and growing the 110,000 middle class jobs in Broward County and 136,000 jobs regionally driving the economic output to \$11.5 billion regionally. Created in 1961, the not-for-profit trade group is focused on the sound growth of the marine industry in the South Florida Region to benefit its members and their customers, communities, and the environment. The Association has over 500 members in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach counties and is the owner of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

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