

GREAT DIVERSITY OF PRODUCTS HIGHLIGHTED AT THE DAME AWARDS 2017

Birgit Schnaase, Chairwoman of the Jury, presented the prestigious DAME Award 2017 at the commencement of the METSTRADE show this morning to Scanstrut for its RS Venture Connect Conversion Kit. A further six products were named as Category Winners and 16 received Special Mentions.

The Scanstrut Venture Connect Conversion Kit retrospectively adapts an RS Venture, a dinghy designed for able-bodied sailors that is already in common use in many training and sailing centres. The plug and play kit includes a combined battery and control pack, a powered mainsheet winch, joystick control and sip-puff headset option. Fully self-contained, it enables a sailing instructor to convert the boat to one suitable for use by those with a wide range of disabilities, including paraplegia, in only 30 minutes. The Jury praised Scanstrut for delivering a well-designed and fully integrated solution with attention to every detail that will allow a broader range of disabled people to get on the water and enjoy the same benefits as others. Commenting on the result, Chairwoman of the Jury, Birgit Schnaase stated: "I work a lot in the superyacht sector and saw good entries that apply there, but I was also pleased to see products with personal applications that you can touch, see, feel and understand. Our overall winner is a very good example of that." "The marine sector's end users are changing – the younger generations often do not have their own boat and need highly accessible products; the industry's wealthier customers have individual and often very different ideas of what they demand of a boat and its equipment. We also need to be much more aware of the need to address diversity. We saw welcome evidence that products are being developed to address these market changes." "Our strong team of new and existing Jury members are highly qualified across many disciplines, including interior, engineering, systems and industrial design and naval architecture, as well as user application. They each saw entries this year of particular interest in their own fields and applied their own considerable knowledge and experience to the debate. There were many detailed discussions throughout our time together about the products themselves and the effect they will have within the marine industry in future days."

This year's Category winners

MARINE ELECTRONICS AND MARINE RELATED SOFTWARE

SIMARINE NEREIDE Smart Marine Power Panel Stand 05.263

INTERIOR EQUIPMENT, FURNISHINGS, MATERIALS AND ELECTRICAL FITTINGS USED IN CABINS

Besenzoni P400 Matrix Stand 01.565, 10.708

MARINA EQUIPMENT, BOATYARD EQUIPMENT AND BOAT

CONSTRUCTION TOOLS AND MATERIALS

Seabin Stand 05.506

DECK EQUIPMENT, SAILS AND RIGGING

Scanstrut RS Venture Connect Conversion Kit Stand 03.510

CLOTHING AND CREW ACCESSORIES

Zhik Isotak X Extreme Ocean Sailing Apparel Stand 07.382

LIFESAVING AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT

CrewWatcher submitted by Weems & Plath Stand 01.121

MACHINERY, PROPULSION, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS AND FITTINGS

Oceanvolt Servoprop Stand 12.833

DAME 2017 winner

Scanstrut RS Venture Connect Conversion Kit Stand 03.510

Special mentions

MARINE ELECTRONICS AND MARINE RELATED SOFTWARE

C Designs DecklincGP Stand 07.316

Digital Yacht Nomad Portable Class B AIS Transponder Stand 01.434

FLIR M232 Marine Thermal Camera submitted by Raymarine UK Ltd. Stand 01.111

INTERIOR EQUIPMENT, FURNISHINGS, MATERIALS AND ELECTRICAL FITTINGS USED IN CABINS B.C.M. Illuminazione Surf Plate R Stand 11.203

MARINA EQUIPMENT, BOATYARD EQUIPMENT AND BOAT CONSTRUCTION TOOLS AND MATERIALS 3D|CORE XPS DELTA Stand CMP.07

CarenEcolo mobile antifouling wastewater filtration system Stand MYP.05.510

Tessilmare Bino-X RubRail Stand 01.671

DECK EQUIPMENT, SAILS AND RIGGING Ropeye U-Block Stand 12.435

SNA Dodger & Cover Designs Bimini CanvasLight Stand 05.448

Boatasy GHOOK submitted by **SPINAKE** d.o.o. Stand 05.361

SUREFAS CAF-COMPO screw-stud Stand 12.106

CLOTHING AND CREW ACCESSORIES Blood Red INTEGRA Stand 03.122

Ocean Rodeo Sports Ignite Drysuit Stand 03.133

CLOTHING AND CREW ACCESSORIES McMurdo SmartFind G8 AIS Stand 03.411

MACHINERY, PROPULSION, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS AND FITTINGS Jefa Electric Steering System Stand 12.340

Kabola KB-Ecoline Hybrid Stand 07.420

The 27th Design Award METSTRADE competition attracted 122 products from 22 countries. A total of 64 products were shortlisted for final consideration. These are the 'Nominated' products that now appear on the DAME stand at METSTRADE. The Jury selected Overall DAME Winners, together with seven outright Category Winners; a total of 16 further entries were commended with Special Mentions.

The globally significant DAME Awards is unique in its aim and ability to promote everything that is important about marine equipment design. It continues to see new and exciting product developments for the Jury to examine, reflecting the progress of METSTRADE exhibitors as they continue to push boundaries and work to match the ever-increasing expectations of the marine industry's customers and its supply chain.

In making its judgements, the DAME Jury seeks to emphasise the importance of design for all marine products, from aesthetics to functionality, integration to packaging and price efficiency to lifecycle management. It also considers the expected impact of entries on the marine industry, their suitability for intended purpose, the level of innovation, cost, ease of use or installation and environmental impact.