## **MEDIA RELEASE**



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Global Marina Institute Reflects on Training Focus**

Directors of the Global Marina Institute (GMI) met in Amsterdam prior to METS to reflect on marina education and training over the past three years and to map out strategies for the future. GMI education delivery partners, British Marine and the Marina Industries Association have increased the number of countries in which GMI courses have been delivered. The increase has been from eight in 2015 to 13 in 2017 across the UK/Europe; Middle East and Asia/South Pacific regions.

Paralleling this increase has been a 20% increase in GMI course participation over the 2015 to 2017 period. The Chairman of GMI John Hogan said he was very pleased with this growth which reflected growing demand in emerging markets and a growing industry awareness of the importance of marina training. "Well trained staff provide a marina with a competitive edge. The consumer is demanding a better service and marina owners are wanting to increase business productivity. All these factors are driving demand for quality training. The growth in demand also reflects increased awareness of GMI endorsed courses."

In looking forward GMI is expecting to conduct courses in two additional European markets in 2018 and expand the cooperation between the training partners with joint marketing of a marina and boatyard study tour.

A challenge recognised by GMI is the need to more effectively increase participation in certification of senior marina industry personnel. The growth in Certified Marina Manager (CMM) and Certified Marina Professional (CMP) designations has not matched the growth in marina course participation over the past three years. Directors of GMI have identified the need to increase awareness of certification and the benefits attributable to such certifications.

According to the GMI Chairman John Hogan the next three years should see a continued expansion of GMI courses into more countries and an associated growth in participation. "We will also be increasing our focus on certification. The industry needs strong leadership and certification including continuing professional development is a proven pathway to achieving this."

END Pic: GMI Directors at METS meeting Amsterdam Further information: Colin Bransgrove, CEO MIA <u>colin@marinas.net.au</u> or Sarah Dhanda Membership and Services Director MB <u>SDhanda@britishmarine.co.uk</u>

Notes to Editors:

The Global Marina Institute Ltd (GMI) was formed in 2011 as a partnership between British Marine and Marina Industries Association. It delivers global marina training and certification with the aim of maintaining and increasing standards in marinas across the world. GMI is working to maintain existing certifications and to develop new certification pathways and training courses to meet the needs of both existing marinas and marinas developing around the World.

See <a href="www.globalmarinainstitute.net">www.globalmarinainstitute.net</a>

## For further details of the partners:

- British Marine <u>www.britishmarine.co.uk</u>
- Marina Industries Association <u>www.marinas.net.au</u>