



NEWS RELEASE

viking[®]
yachts

Route 9, New Gretna, NJ 08224
Phone 609-296-6000
Fax 609-296-4762

For immediate release
Contact: Chris Landry
609-296-6000; ext 438
clandry@vikingyachts.com

Healey Brothers Honored With Lifetime Achievement Award

(November 19, 2019, Amsterdam, The Netherlands)—In honor of their service and commitment to the marine industry for more than a half a century, Viking co-founders Bill and Bob Healey have received the 2019 IBI-METSTRADE Boat Builder Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Healey brothers, who founded Viking in April 1964, built the company into the world's largest manufacturer of high-end sportfishing and motor yachts by following their mantra of building a better boat every day. They also have both made significant and selfless contributions to the general well-being of the boating industry. The Lifetime Achievement Award, sponsored by Side-Power, was presented to Bob's son, Robert Healey Jr, Executive Co-Chairman of the Viking Group.

In accepting the award, Bob Jr. was quick to point out that his father and uncle would attribute the company's success to the people of Viking, citing the excellent work and dedication of long-time employees such as Rudy Dalinger, Al and Frank Uhl, Juan Beltran and Bruce and David Wilson. "Without these people and many others we wouldn't be able to build a better boat every day," Bob told more than 350 guests at the Boat Builder Awards for Business Achievement at Amsterdam's National Maritime Museum. "So I'd like to thank you, and thank all of them as well. "

The fifth edition of the Boat Builder Awards, jointly organized by *IBI* (*International Boat Industry* magazine) and METSTRADE, received a record 82 nominations this year, according to Ed Slack, *IBI* Editor and Chair of the Boat Builder Awards judges. The awards celebrate "the achievements of the people and companies that build the boats that drive our industry," said Slack. "We have seen a record number of entries from across the globe ... that spanned small craft production, right up to large superyachts." The awards were part the 2019 METSTRADE Show, an annual marine industry event.

IBI-METSTRADE highlighted the many achievements of Bill and Bob Healey before presenting the award, including their unparalleled efforts to repeal the Luxury Tax of 1990. The brothers have "proven to be an incredible force in the world of boatbuilding," said Nick Hopkinson, *IBI* Publishing Director.

"Our lifetime award winners have received the accolade of being named to the NMMA Hall of Fame," said Hopkinson. "Together they have successfully steered the company through the ups and downs of economic

cycles and it remains as successful as ever today, with the second and third generation of their families now driving the business. “Its manufacturing plants represent the pinnacle of boat manufacturing achievement, with nine modern buildings, state-of-the-art machinery and the space to build 100-plus-footers. The company has built more than 4,500 yachts in its 55-year history and continues to lead the marine industry through innovation and that same commitment to build a better boat every day.”

###