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The Superyacht Sustainability Report

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Taking an important measure

Vienna Eleuteri discusses her work on the Yacht Assessment Tool, which has been designed to enable the superyacht industry to measure its environmental impact ... and reduce it.

In 2020, the development of a database for sustainable solutions will be the major project.

Water Revolution Foundation is here to stay. We celebrated our first anniversary at The Superyacht Forum in Amsterdam in November by launching our first projects and announcing our activities for year two. Sustainability was all around us and was the main theme for both the forum as well as for METSTRADE. I'm very proud of this accomplishment alone, but am even more proud to share our progress and future plans because this will give real follow-up and substance to the many discussions held at these events.

But first I would like to thank the industry-leading companies that have supported Water Revolution Foundation from its very early days. This is the leadership we need to drive and accelerate the much-needed shift in the superyacht industry. Water Revolution Foundation is there to help the industry through projects, tools and sharing knowledge. The collective approach is the way to go.

Already, due to this fantastic support from these pre-eminent companies, we were able to launch two major projects at The Superyacht Forum. We have set up Sustainability in Practice, our very first management course, which lowers the barrier for the superyacht industry to start an internal sustainability programme tomorrow. From the responses of the participants, the first course was a great success. More courses will be provided this year at various key locations in the industry.

Yet our main delivery, and the basis for everything else Water Revolution Foundation is planning on, is the

Yacht Assessment Tool (YAT). I've been working on this long before we established the foundation. This tool is based on computational sustainability, an interdisciplinary field that combines techniques from computer science, information science, operations research, applied mathematics and statistics for balancing environmental, economic and societal needs for sustainable development.

Our tool enables the superyacht industry to assess its environmental impact – not just the CO2 emission of a yacht's operations but a full life-cycle assessment based on the 11 most important indicators of environmental impact. I will further explain how it works, what we plan to do with it and how it will benefit and future-proof the superyacht industry.

Until now, the industry has not been able to assess its environmental impact. Existing tools do not take into account just how unique a superyacht is, let alone its entire life cycle or the build process. With YAT, we can assess yachts in a scientifically correct way without being accused of greenwashing or measuring ourselves in the most convenient way.

The tool can not only assess the entire yacht, just the build process or only the operation, but also just a subsystem or focus only on the hull construction or machinery on board. It's important to take the life-cycle assessment approach to know what real sustainable choices are – not just for the operation or the build.

The impact is indicated by scores on 10 parameters. The results will not be published nor shared with other users; they will only be fed back to the user to understand what the real impact is and learn where this impact is coming from and therefore set targets to reduce it. Giving the industry the right tools to improve and reduce its environmental impact is the ethos of Water Revolution Foundation. This is the most important measure we have to take to apply 'ecological intelligence' and to address the kind of challenges we're facing right now. Looking at materials and energy cycles through ecological lenses can alter our fundamental ideas about sustainability. Empowering our industry on this path means transforming our challenges into great opportunities.

We have now called on the superyacht industry to submit case studies so we can show how the tool works and how to get started on reducing the environmental footprint of their products.

This is just the beginning; now we can measure, we can make measurable progress. In 2020, the development of a database for sustainable solutions will be the major project. When collecting sustainable solutions, we can now verify these with our assessment tool to ensure we can promote real solutions to the industry.

In this way, we are not only future-proofing our industry, we are also taking the lead in the wider maritime industry by taking real action. So jump on board and join the Water Revolution! **VE**

ABOUT VIENNA ELEUTERI

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WORKS

WITH GOVERNMENTS, COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS TO INTRODUCE SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES