

British Marine – about us

British Marine is the trade organisation for the UK leisure, superyacht and small commercial marine industries, with a membership of around 1,500+ businesses.

Our members come from a broad range of businesses including boat builders, refit and repairers, chandlers, brokers, marinas, passenger boat fleets and engine manufacturers.

The core aim of the business is to deliver excellence. Both in the quality of our membership services, representation of the interests of members and the boating community alike and, most importantly, in the quality of our members.

Our vision

A thriving industry delivering amazing on water experiences for everyone.

On behalf of our members, British Marine continues to:

- Promote the marine industry
- Promote members' products and services through national marketing campaign, Look for the Logo
- Provide showcases for its products at home and overseas (Southampton International Boat Show, British Marine Expo)
- Liaise with governments, authorities and agencies
- Conduct research on UK and international marine markets
- Provide technical, regulatory and manufacturing information and advice
- Provide strategy, advice and practical assistance on environmental issues
- Provide advice and guidance on training and recruitment, support apprenticeships and promote careers in the industry
- Advise and represent on legal and financial matters

Our history

The Boat, Yacht and Allied Trades Association was formed in 1913 with the aims of promoting and protecting its members, promoting or opposing government legislation and helping companies in monetary and legal matters. By 1919, the Association had 108 Full and 74 Associate members and a full-time secretary. In 1947 the Association became the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation. In 1973, the Federation joined forces with the Royal Yachting Association and lobbied MP's to oppose a Labour Government imposed 25% VAT on boats. After an audience with then Chancellor Denis Healey, the following year the rate was halved and eventually returned to the standard rate.

In 1986 the Federation became the British Marine Industries Federation, in 2008 it was renamed the British Marine Federation and finally, in 2015, it was rebranded as British Marine.