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## **A SUN-FILLED SUCCESS FOR THE 2017 NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW**

**Newport, R.I.** – Newport Exhibition Group, owners and producers of the Newport International Boat Show, announced today that its 2017 Show was a success. Despite weather concerns that were affecting most of the eastern seaboard, a final tally of ticket sales put the show’s overall attendance in line with last year.

The four-day show, held along the waterfront on America’s Cup Avenue in Newport, Rhode Island, opened on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. This year’s event included over 600 boats in the water and 450 exhibitors from around the world displaying an exceptional assortment of boats of every type and style from 15 to 90 feet, and a wide variety of accessories, equipment, electronics, gear and services for boaters. Twenty percent of exhibitors came from outside the United States and represented 19 different countries. Approximately 40,000 visitors attended the show – coming from as far as 250 miles away – creating an economic impact for Newport County in the millions of dollars.

“We were delighted with the show’s outcome on many levels,” said Nancy Piffard, show director, Newport Exhibition Group. “Heading into September, we were concerned with the well-being of our exhibitors and their families living in Florida and the Islands – and unsure of the path Hurricane Jose was going to take. Fortunately, our exhibitors arrived safely, the weather was perfect, attendance was great, and exhibitors reported boat and product sales at the show...as well as qualified leads for future purchase.”

Following this year’s event, the Newport International Boat Show made charitable contributions totaling over \$15,000 to numerous hurricane disaster relief organizations, as well as their 2017 charitable partner, Sail-To-Prevail.

Comments from exhibitors included:

- “The show went great, we had a steady volume of people in and out of the boat and the weather held out,” said Morgan Everson, Dream Yacht Charters.
- “This was our first year exhibiting in Newport and we were really impressed by the smooth organization and steady crowds. We look forward to seeing you next year,” said Graham Quinn, Harding Sails.

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- “The Newport International Boat Show felt great to me this year,” said Eric Braitmayer, CEO, IMTRA. “I was impressed with the overall appearance of the show and the boats, products and services on display. It felt like it had everything in a package and was very easy to traverse.”

For more information on the Newport International Boat Show, please visit [www.newportboatshow.com](http://www.newportboatshow.com).

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#### **About Newport Exhibition Group:**

Based in Newport, Rhode Island, Newport Exhibition Group has produced the highest quality consumer/trade shows for more than 30 years. A subsidiary of Newport Harbor Corporation, the organization owns Newport International Boat Show.



*Newport International Boat Show 2017*

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