

The winners of the BOAT International Design & Innovation Awards 2022

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AWARD 1: OUTSTANDING EXTERIOR DESIGN, MOTOR YACHTS 40M TO 59.9M

Al Waab



Length 55m

Exterior stylist [Vripack](#)

Naval architect Vripack

Builder [Alia Yachts](#)

With the client setting a limit on gross tonnes rather than length, the designers could be assured of sufficient room for harmony and balance – two elements that define *Al Waab's* profile. The bridge is more like a raised pilothouse than another full deck, a feature that helps to enhance the length-to-height ratio. Glass railings and a spare number of lines contribute to an exterior that's clean and contemporary. This full-custom project was designed as a weekend retreat the owner can anchor near shore to entertain with an emphasis on indoor/outdoor living areas, including an attractive outdoor kitchen. Side deck overheads are dark and aft deck overheads have wood inlays, an element the judges felt enhanced homogeneous design and met the owner's brief to temper any potential overabundance of natural light.

AWARD 2: BEST INTERIOR DESIGN, MOTOR YACHTS 499GT AND BELOW

Al Waab



Length 55m

Interior designer Vripack

Naval architect Vripack

Builder Alia Yachts

On this, the longest entry to stay below 500GT among this year's entries, the design team made the most of the interior spaces afforded by full walkarounds to create an unconventional main deck layout. The judges appreciated the harmonious alignment of the interior functions with the window features on this full-custom project. An ergonomic layout supports crew movement, while locating the galley and crew mess on the main deck frees room for six guest cabins below without impinging on crew or service areas. The judges also applauded the split-level owners' suite for adding an element of elegant drama. Bamboo slats on the saloon overhead reduce glare from huge windows by day without having to resort to shades. The designers also cleverly hid indirect sources for ambient lighting instead of relying on downlights.

AWARD 3: BEST NAVAL ARCHITECTURE, DISPLACEMENT MOTOR YACHTS

Al Waab



Length 55m

Naval architect Vripack

Builder Alia Yachts

The candidates for this award were diverse, ranging from 36 metres to 80 metres. Fortunately, a complex scoring matrix reduces performance to a numbers analysis, although our panel also considers innovation, completeness and coherence of the presentation, as well as the naval architect's thoroughness of development and the balance of volume, length and fuel efficiency relative to each yacht's mission. In the end, the top three yachts scored within eight points of each other. Although a tricky puzzle to solve, *Al Waab* pulled ahead as a solid, smart design that's slightly more efficient than its fellow nominees. Further tipping the balance in her favour was the holistic element of her naval architecture, exterior styling and interior arrangement, which our judges appreciated.