

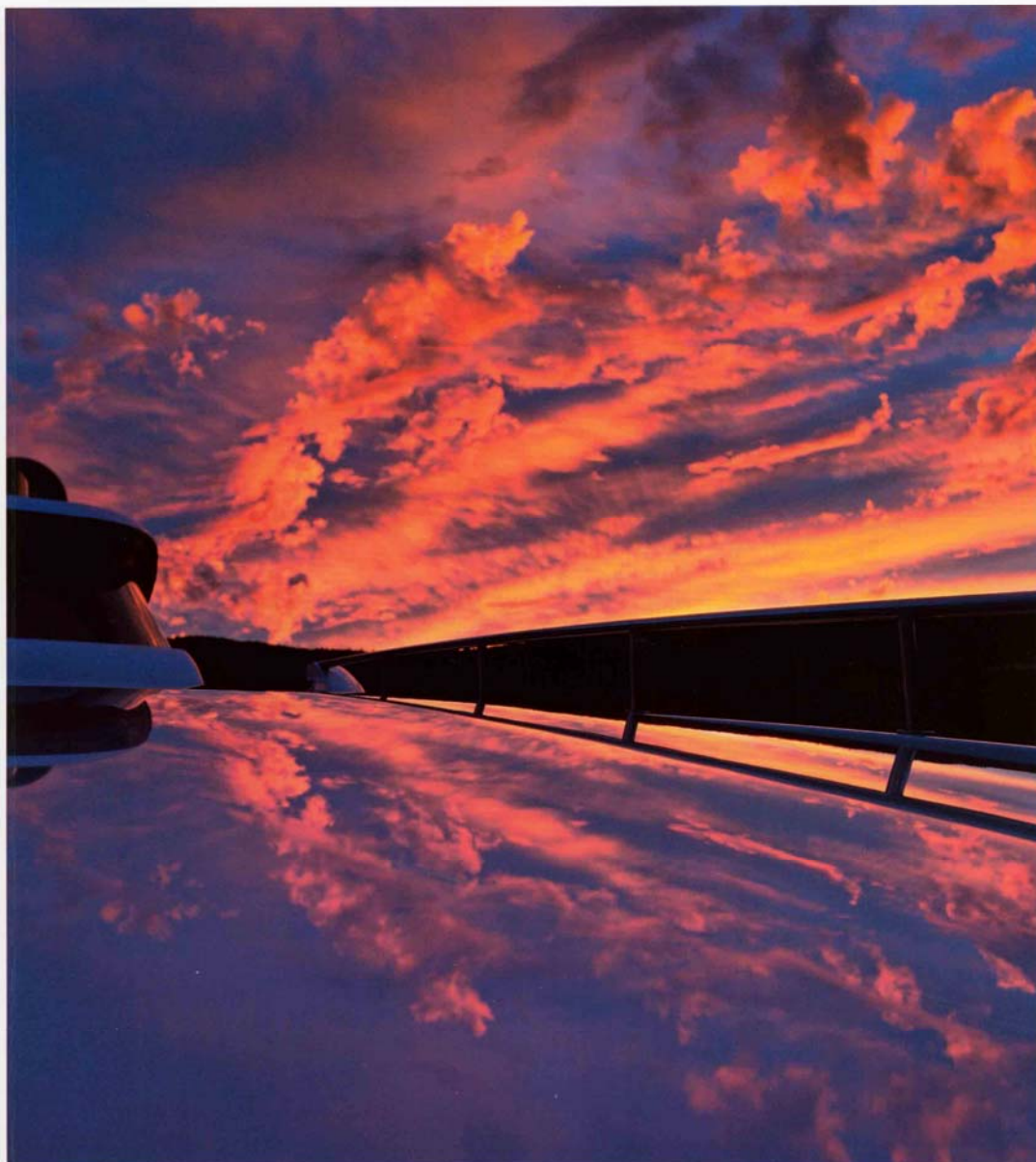
THE YACHT

The leading magazine for the design, construction,
management, ownership & operation of luxury yachts

report

Issue 94

May 2008



REFITS

Bystander Becomes Bulbous

Having been approached in August '07 by Captain Lars Loftus of M/Y *Bystander* to verify the availability and capability of adding a bulbous bow on the 42-metre vessel built at JFA, MB'92 accepted the challenge and agreed a contract which has now been successfully completed.

The yard achieved all this by modifying her existing bow significantly to increase stability. The structural modification study was undertaken by Vripack, who were also responsible for the original drawing work of the yacht. Plates and stiffeners required for construction of the new bulb were cut, shaped and prefabricated. This was made possible as Vripack had already prepared the cutting, nesting and shaping files for all the steelworks prior to her arrival at MB'92. Therefore while the existing bow was being scrapped, the new structure was being

prefabricated in the yard's metal fabrication workshop and after this the assembly phase of the new structure was performed. However, since the shape of the bow had changed, the bow thruster tunnel and all the associated stiffeners had to be adapted also.

After the welding work, the Classification Society witnessed, non-destructive tests (X-rays and pressure tests) on the weld points and associated watertight spaces. Her final phase was installing protection on the bulb to avoid damage caused by the anchor chains during anchorage, then blasting, installation of components, and application of the anti-fouling paint and protective paint. The final test and sea trials proved that the modification was a success and achieved to the satisfaction of the Classification Society and the Owner.

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