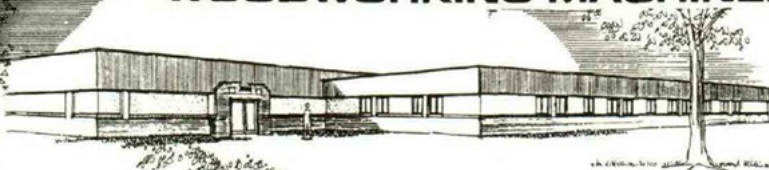


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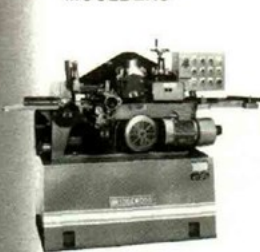
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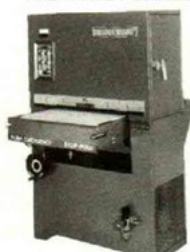
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It is a great pleasure to introduce this first issue of *Professional BoatBuilder*. From those early days when its potential as an idea was being discussed with a mixture of excitement and anxiety, we've been very enthusiastic about its place and purpose in an industry encompassing boat and yacht production, construction, and repair. And we are gratified by the widespread, positive response to the idea of a magazine created solely for the individuals and enterprises that are shaping this industry's present and future.

We feel very comfortable with the responsibility for building the kinds of issues that will serve this readership well in a wide variety of ways, and we are confident that the magazine will become an indispensable tool. Company managers confront both day-to-day and long-term challenges as they navigate through these times of high labor costs and fluctuating turnover rates. They also face constantly changing technologies and methodologies, health and safety concerns, regulatory constraints, and ever-more-sophisticated customers. With these needs foremost in mind, *Professional BoatBuilder* will attempt to stimulate informed and enlightened planning and decision-making.

Our challenge is to make this magazine as substantive and insightful as possible; to make it relevant, while maintaining our allegiance to the causes of quality, integrity, and durability. We welcome that challenge. But, more importantly, we welcome your ideas, comments, and suggestions, for *Professional BoatBuilder* is edited for you, the builder, repairer, designer, and surveyor. We know you have much to share, from noteworthy details to successful methods and suggestions for future issues. Obviously, the strength of this magazine will be all the greater for your involvement, and we look forward to hearing from you.

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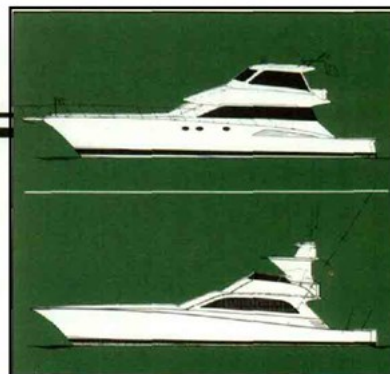
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Students in a Maine-based marine painting class are far better protected against boatshop hazards than most of the industry, and OSHA has taken regulatory steps to change that. Page 30. Photo by Tom Stewart.

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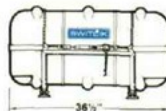
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