

# Persico... Making amazing things happen

## Turnkey solutions for racing teams

A company being talked about increasingly in racing yacht circles is Persico... A part of Italy's enormous Persico industrial group, the Persico Marine Division has been contributing to some of the world's best-known grand prix projects for many years. But it is only now, with their involvement with the Abu Dhabi Volvo Ocean Race project led by Ian Walker – for which Persico is supplying both the boat and rig – that the company has moved more prominently into the public gaze. Taking advantage of the company's immense engineering capacity, the female moulds for *Abu Dhabi Racing* were milled directly from blanks, saving time and greatly increasing finished accuracy. The whole primary structure was then moved into the company's giant ovens for final curing.

### Composites

A corporate policy oriented towards research and innovation led to the creation of the Composite Area. To take advantage of the extraordinary properties of the latest materials, and to ensure the best possible product, Persico purchased a new vacuum processing plant and post-treatment oven. This complements the company's existing series of large CNC-milling machines that can produce models and moulds of virtually any size out of any suitable material.

In the top-end nautical sector, where high stiffness and light weight are always required, the use of composite materials – particularly carbon – is now considered the industry standard and to ensure the best use is made of these materials Persico has also invested heavily in highly specialised staff. The result is a production facility that can deliver advanced sail and power craft on time and to the highest specification.

### Previous nautical projects:

#### ● 1992 Il Moro Di Venezia

Persico provided CNC milling of shells and keels for the 1990/91 Whitbread Race and for the 28th America's Cup with Il Moro di Venezia. This provided the foundation for the company's marine expertise and the foundation for a 30-year track record in running its own foundry and milling its own keels and appendages.

#### ● 2004 RC44

Persico constructed the moulds for the hull, deck and carbon components for Russell Coutts' new one-design – a fundamental step forward at both project and construction levels.

#### ● 2007 Luna Rossa

During the 32nd America's Cup Persico developed most of the necessary equipment for the construction of the Luna Rossa Challenge's two new V5 designs (*ITA 86* and *ITA 94*). The two new boats were built entirely by the Persico Marine Division in Nembro. It was the Marine Division's know-how in design, engineering, materials and technologies, that led to Persico's winning bid. After construction the hulls were inspected using laser scanners – as was done on each of the four parts of the mould (once the CNC milling and fairing were finished) – to verify the tolerances achieved. The result was an average tolerance of 0.1mm, a level of precision that we believe is now the benchmark at this level.

#### ● 2010 Abu Dhabi Tourism appoints Persico to build VO70

Persico was appointed to build ADTA's VO70 in a competitive tender against suppliers from the UAE, Europe and the Far East. Build is well advanced at Persico's manufacturing facility in Italy,



**Top:** Abu Dhabi Ocean Racing skipper Ian Walker takes his sailing team out for some practice on their existing training boat while their new Farr-designed VO70 (above) takes shape in Italy

in tandem with ongoing design development by Farr Yacht Design. 'This is becoming a truly international project,' says HE Mubarak Al Muhairi, Director General ADTA, lead-manager of the Volvo team. 'We are intent on tapping the best minds and resources the yachting industry can offer to press forward our Volvo Race ambitions. We believe Persico has the right credentials in terms of manufacturing experience, product innovation and its ability to deliver a highly competitive integrated build solution.'

The 45,000-hour build of *Abu Dhabi Ocean Racing* is led by Persico's operations manager, Mark Somerville, a veteran of five Volvo Ocean Race yachts and 10 America's Cup entries.

### Performance cruisers

Persico does not only build lightweight racers but is ready to work with all the latest megayacht projects. Whether a maxi cruiser or a maxi racer, Persico can provide machined female moulds plus a precise pre-preg hull, which can then be delivered for final fit-out to another facility of the owner's choice. This gives the client and design team a great solution to achieving a fast, light hull equivalent to today's latest top-of-the-line racing yachts and with whatever level of interior fit-out that may then be required.

More information: [www.persico.com](http://www.persico.com) □