

IN BRIEF

ALLIAURA MARINE

► **Location:** Lanester, Brittany

► **Web:** www.alliaura.com

Groupe Alliaura builds pleasure boats under four brands — Feeling sailing monohulls, Privilège sailing catamarans, Transcat motor catamarans and Tresco Line day boats and superyacht tenders. Until recently the largest of Alliaura's range was the Privilège 745, but in response to client demand, Alliaura has invested in introducing a much larger model — the Privilège 1000, a 30m (100ft) sailing catamaran.

"Some of our most loyal clients expressed interest in larger projects, but up until now our facilities have not allowed us to respond to this demand," explains communications manager Cécilia Edeline. "The yard was too narrow at Sables d'Olonne, so the group has built an extra facility for building even larger catamarans."

Alliaura has invested around €10m in the new site at Lanester, Brittany, opening officially in spring 2010. An existing building has been converted for boatbuilding, offering 19,000m² of space and a new 5,500m² building was added to the site for the construction of hulls and superstructures in polyester. The moulds arrived at Lanester at the end of March for construction to commence at the beginning of April.

"We currently have two very serious clients interested, but the boat is yet to be sold," says Edeline. "Our target is to launch one Privilège 1000 every year."

The first Privilège is set for launch at the end of 2011. Alliaura currently has no plans for further models over 24m (79ft).

"At the moment we've not any projects for further models over 80ft," says Edeline. "We've launched the Privilège 515, this year we're launching the Feeling 48, and the following year the Privilège 1000. For the foreseeable future the yard will be concentrating on its existing range and these new models."

GROUPE PONCIN

► **Location:** Marans, Poitou-Charantes

► **Web:** www.poncinyachts.com

Groupe Poncin has emerged from financial difficulties that affected the business prior to the crisis and continues to offer a 30m (99ft) sailing catamaran as part of its Catana range of high-end catamarans.

Designed by Christophe Barreau and Frédéric Neuman, the 92 offers a sail surface area of 566m² including gennaker and a living space of 200m².

Groupe Poncin currently offers no further models of over 24m (79ft).

H2X

► **Location:** La Ciotat, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

► **Web:** www.h2x.com

Based on France's Mediterranean coast, H2X builds sailing and motoryachts, both mono- and multihull, using aluminium, wood and composites. The company's yacht building accompanies refit activity, for which the yard is well placed geographically.

In 2009 H2X launched the 25m (82ft) sailing yacht *Levant* in and the 30m (98ft) motoryacht *Isis*. In build at the moment are two yachts for launch in 2010, the *Nahema 120* and the *Blue Coast 95*.

The *Nahema 120* is a 30m (115ft) fast cruising catamaran with a 14.32m (45ft)

"Our most loyal clients expressed interest in bigger projects. We've now enlarged facilities"

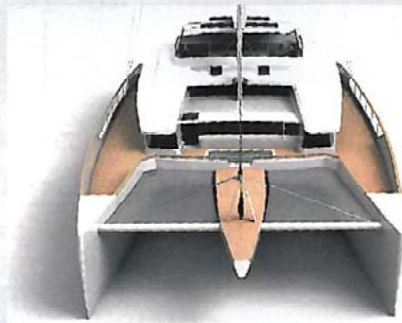
beam, designed by Gilles Vaton. For the build of the *Blue Coast 95*, H2X has teamed with Coste Design & Partners. Two half-hulls are currently being assembled, bulkheads are being vacuum bagged and the forward centre hull is under construction.

Future projects include a selection of sailing monohulls available in superyacht dimensions and an oceanographic survey and sub-sea operation catamaran.

On the refit side, H2X worked on a 25m (82ft) sailing yacht and a 36m (118ft) motoryacht for launch in 2009. For 2010 H2X has the 40m (131ft) motoryacht *Blue Ice* on its books.

In wake of the crisis, a new strategy has been developed for 2010 that will see H2X offering new products at competitive prices, a strengthening of R&D development, a continuation of construction and refit projects and a consolidation of partnerships.

Established in 1991 in Marseille, H2X employs 45 craftsmen at a 10,000m² facility on the French Riviera. The yard is a subsidiary of ix-Marine, which is a division of the ix-Core maritime group, which employs over 980 people.



Alliaura's 30m (100ft) sailing catamaran, the Privilège 1000

