

< Press Release >

Non-profit Center Offers Independent Research For Waterfront Professionals

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Jacksonville, FL

A 2008 Green Marine Summit hosted by Florida Marine Contractors Association (FMCA), Association of Marina Industries (AMI), the TECHBlue Center and several Florida Marine Industries Associations, gathered in Ft. Pierce, FL in October.

As followup from the event, waterfront professionals are collecting information on sustainability and 'green' building methods, directly related to marine construction. Notice is out to all planning professionals and material specifiers to involve their trade organization membership in this process. The declared goal is 'to develop benchmarks for waterfront industries'.

Steven Webster, Executive Director FMCA will present an update on work-study groups at the International Marina & Boatyard Conference in (January 25-28, Ft. Lauderdale, FL)

"Design and construction at the waterfront have a number of building industry differences which require attention. For starters, working over and in the water sets a high bar when we consider how to protect resources.", states Dale Gilbert, Acting Director of the TECHBlue Center and a retired landscape architect, who has spent over twenty-five years site planning marinas.

"Clean water is arguably the most vital of our natural resources." Gilbert adds, "Many projects, to the credit of marine industries, meet new standards and include products which are very 'green'. They are just not known by the scientific or professional communities. Unfortunately their benefits are also not known by contractors and regulators. We are attempting to 'connect the dots', bridge the gap, and decrease the learning curve about energy saving, clean water systems. Hopefully the practices will have application to many more projects."

The 'clearing house' for submittal data and research on the Green Marine Summit is www.cleanwaterfront.net/Summit.