



For Immediate Release
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Maine Built Boats Announces Maine's First "Open Boatyard Days"

August 16th & 17th, 2010 – from Kittery to Eastport

Maine Built Boats will work with boatbuilders, boatyards, and affiliated businesses across the State of Maine to present "Open Boatyard Days". The Open Boatyard Days will be held August 16th & 17th, 2010, in boatyards and boatbuilding companies across the state. People will be allowed to tour the insides of companies of all sizes. "This is a unique opportunity for the public to learn more about boatbuilding in Maine, and to see first hand the passion that boatbuilders have for their art. Earlier this year, I led a group from Mystic Seaport on a tour of 5 boatbuilders, and the people were incredibly impressed. We want to open these yards up to anyone interested in boatbuilding in Maine," said Jane Wellehan, President of Maine Built Boats.

The dates will build upon the Maine Boats, Homes & Harbors Show, held in Rockland August 13th-15th. People can visit the show and see a very broad array of boats, then go on to visit the boatbuilders, boatyards, and affiliated businesses at their location. Two days are planned to allow time to visit different regions. Tours will be available at participating businesses every hour, on the hour, between 10 am and 3 pm.

"Response so far has been tremendous," said Wellehan. "Companies from all parts of the state, and all parts of our industry, have agreed to open their doors to the public." The companies committed to date are (by region): *Kittery to Portland*: Clint Chase Boatbuilder, Kittery Point Yacht Yard, and Portland Yacht Services; *Sebago Lake Region*: Sabre Yachts; *Portland to Brunswick*: Six River Marine, North Yarmouth; *Boothbay Region*: Samoset Boatworks; *Mid-Coast*: Artisan Boatworks, Back Cove Yachts, Johanson Boatworks, Lyman Morse Boatbuilding, and Rockport Marine; *Belfast*: French & Webb; *Brooklin Peninsula*: Brooklin Boatyard, Hewes & Company, and WoodenBoat School; *Mount Desert Island*: Classic Boat Shop, Ellis Boat Company, The Hinckley Company (Trenton Location), John Williams Boat Company, Morris Yachts, Nautilus Marine, Ralph W. Stanley, Inc, and Wilbur Yachts; *Downeast*: The Boat School, Husson, Eastport Maine, and West Bay Boats, Steuben, Maine.

There will be continual updates of which businesses are open to the public during "Open Boatyard Days" at www.mainebuiltboats.com. Boatbuilding is Maine's oldest industry, dating back over 400 years. Today, it remains an essential part of Maine's economy, and is the third largest manufacturing industry in Maine. Maine Built Boats is non-profit member driven trade organization building awareness, appreciation and demand for Maine's Boatbuilding Industry.

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