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The building hosting IBS's new location in Shanghai, China.

Italy's IBS group moves into China, but no Riviera representation

Italian group International Boat Services (IBS) has established an office in Shanghai to capitalise on what it predicts will be significant growth in the region's marine industry. With over 50 new marinas coming online in the next few years throughout China and a budding recreational boating culture, IBS predicts healthy demand for its luxury yachts and yachting services among China's emerging yachting enthusiasts. Although IBS is the local agent for Australian brand Riviera in Italy, the company will not extend its representation to China and will instead focus on other brands in its portfolio including Warren Yachts, Cantieri di Sarnico, Tiara Yachts, Viking Yachts and Cigarette Racing Team. IBS will also look to establish relationships with promising Chinese boat yards with a view to future collaboration within the market and abroad.

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Couple complete 21,904 mile, two-year journey aboard their Nordhavn 46, *Egret*

More than 70 guests gathered at the New Zealand Maritime Museum in Auckland recently to meet and greet world travelers Scott and Mary Flanders, who have just completed a two-year global odyssey aboard their Nordhavn 46, *Egret*.

Fans and followers of the globetrotting couple came to hear of their adventures on the trip, which took them from Gibraltar to Auckland covering some 12,000 nautical miles aboard their sturdy little Nordhavn passagemaker. Guests were also able to ask questions about the feasibility of conducting their own long-range journey. With the picturesque Auckland Harbour as a backdrop, the day began with a slideshow of the Flanders' various stopovers, which guests took in while nibbling on hors-d'oeuvres.

Afterward, the guests of honor were introduced and addressed the audience about their trip, how they went about doing it, and how anyone in the crowd gathered there that day could embark on a world cruise of their own.

As an added bonus, Nordhavn 55 owners Roger and Joan Allard and daughter Kimberly were also on hand to field the group's questions. The Allards, also global cruisers, tag teamed with *Egret* to New Zealand since both landed in Tahiti last June. The Allards spoke about communication with the real world, maintaining and enhancing relationships, and in Kimberly's case, how to manage education.

Following the official proceedings, guests were invited down to the docks to inspect the Flanders' N46, a 2001 Nordhavn, alongside the newer N47 *Southern Star*.

As the Nordhavn owners headed back to their boats, Scott Flanders remarked, "even if this event inspires just one couple to embrace the cruising life, then it will have been well worthwhile."

For now the couple plans to cruise around New Zealand before traveling west to Australia some time in 2009.

For further information visit www.nordhavn.com/egret/index



Egret (left), a Nordhavn N46, and the more recent N47 *New Paige*.

Scott and Mary Flanders addressing the crowd who turned out to hear of their round the world trip.



The Flanders and the Allards with Nordhavn staff.