



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Soundings Trade Only* launches the 2025 EPIC Awards**
Recognizing Exceptional, Purposeful, Innovative, Compassionate Companies

The EPIC awards, formerly the Most Innovative Company Awards, will recognize exceptional, purposeful, innovative, compassionate companies transforming the marine industry.

Chattanooga, TN, June 12, 2025 – The Soundings Trade Only Group is proud to announce the launch of the **2025 EPIC Awards**, formerly known as the Most Innovative Marine Company Awards. These prestigious honors celebrate companies that are shaping the future of the recreational marine industry through bold leadership, purposeful innovation, and a commitment to positive impact.

The EPIC AWARDS—an acronym for Exceptional, Purposeful, Innovative, Compassionate—highlight organizations making meaningful change across a range of areas, including:

- Altruism/Social Awareness
- Development & Technology
- Work Culture
- Manufacturing Process/Supply Chains
- Start-ups
- Sustainability
- Other
- Mix of categories

Unlike product innovation awards, the EPIC Awards are company-wide honors. While innovation plays a vital role in evaluation, these awards recognize broader organizational excellence—celebrating culture, leadership, and initiatives that drive lasting, meaningful change.

“Every year we honor the elite companies who innovate and push the recreational boating industry forward,” *Soundings Trade Only* editor-in-chief Gary Reich said. “I always look forward to judging these awards and learning about the next ‘big things’ that will guide the industry moving forward.”

In 2025, the EPIC Awards will recognize the **Top 10 overall winners** as well as **one standout company in each individual category**, allowing a broader range of organizations to be celebrated for their specific contributions and impact.

Open to all companies providing products or services to the recreational marine sector, the EPIC Awards offer an opportunity to be recognized not just for innovation, but for impact—on the industry as a whole as well as local and global communities.

“Each year, companies reshape the marketplace through strategic decisions and bold initiatives that not only transform their own businesses but also advance the marine industry as a whole,” says Michele Goldsmith, vice president and general manager of the Soundings Trade Only Group. “We celebrate organizations that are well-rounded—those with clear goals and vision, innovative thinking, and a strong sense of purpose driving their impact. We encourage forward-thinking, creative, and purposeful companies to enter this year’s competition.”

Winners will be showcased in the November issue of *Soundings Trade Only* and featured on [TradeOnlyToday.com](https://www.tradeonlytoday.com), along with a other promotional benefits designed to amplify their story and leadership.

Entries are now open. For full details and to submit your nomination, please visit: www.tradeonlytoday.com/enter.

The Soundings Trade Only Group

The Soundings Trade Only Group is a marine business-to-business multi-media brand, with a mission to provide information to grow your business. It includes a monthly print publication, digital entities including a daily e-newsletter, web, and social media sites, and marine industry events. *Soundings Trade Only* offers the latest business news, and information about products, trends, statistics, management, and marketing insights, designed to reflect, inform and inspire the marine industry. It is part of Firecrown Media, a global media platform for affluent enthusiasts and includes both consumer and trade marine titles. For more information, about the Soundings Trade

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About Firecrown:

Firecrown isn't just the leading media platform for affluent enthusiasts; it's pioneering the fusion of content and commerce. With more than fifty prestigious publications in the marine, aviation, and hobby markets, Firecrown goes beyond traditional media. Its business encompasses e-commerce, finance, and real estate, all tailored to the communities engaged by its media outlets. Serving more than 24 million U.S. households classified as affluent enthusiasts, these consumers have considerable disposable income and are keen to invest in their passions and adventures. Firecrown is headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

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