



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Soundings Trade Only Group Announces Winners of the 2025 EPIC Awards

Recognizing Exceptional, Purposeful, Innovative, and Compassionate Companies

October 8, 2025 | Tampa, FL — The Soundings Trade Only Group today announced the winners of the 2025 **EPIC Awards** during a special ceremony at the IBEX show in Tampa, Florida. Formerly known as the Most Innovative Company Awards, the EPIC Awards celebrate organizations 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*—honor companies driving meaningful change across the marine landscape.

Each year, the program recognizes the **Top 10** overall winners, one **Top Award** honoree, and **individual category** leaders. This year's Top Award resulted in a tie between **Garmin** and **Dometic**, both of whom demonstrated extraordinary innovation and leadership.

The 2025 Top 10 Companies (including one tie) and three Honorable Mentions, in alphabetical order, are: ABYC, Boatyard, Brunswick, Correct Craft, DIS, Group Beneteau, Roswell, Scout Boats, Sharrow Marine, Suzuki, Tiara Yachts, Volvo Penta, and Wavve.

Soundings Trade Only will profile all the winners and reveal the ranked Top 10 list in the upcoming November issue.

In addition, the EPIC Awards honored excellence in individual categories:

- **Altruism / Social Awareness:** Correct Craft

- **Development & Technology:** Scout Boats and Dometic
- **Work Culture:** Garmin
- **Manufacturing Process / Supply Chain:** Tiara Yachts
- **Sustainability:** Suzuki
- **Training:** AkzoNobel

Open to all companies serving the recreational marine industry, the EPIC Awards recognize not only innovation but also impact—on the industry, local communities, and the broader global marketplace.

“This year’s entries were exceptionally strong, making the judging process both inspiring and challenging,” said Michele Goldsmith, Vice President, and General Manager of the Soundings Trade Only Group. “Our 2025 honorees are reshaping the marketplace through strategic vision and bold initiatives that are transforming their businesses and elevating the entire marine industry.”

Goldsmith also thanked the 2025 judging panel:

Gary Reich, Editor-in-Chief, *Soundings Trade Only*; Glenn Sandridge, former President, Firecrown Media Marine Group; Dave Connolly, former Senior Partner, Thomas H. Connolly and Sons, Inc.; and Paxson St. Clair, former President, Cobalt Boats.

For more information about the EPIC Awards, visit www.tradeonlytoday.com/enter. Submissions for the 2026 EPIC Awards open in June 2026.

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 Only Group, please visit www.tradeonlytoday.com, for your free subscription please visit www.tradeonlytoday.com/subscribe.

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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