

# MEMBER'S

INTERNATIONAL

THE MEMBER'S

# 500

E U R O P E

THE LEADERS  
OF EUROPEAN SOCIETY – WHO THEY ARE,  
WHAT THEY DO, WHERE THEY STAY

AN INSIDER'S LOOK  
AT THE PEOPLE WHO COUNT  
FROM THE AGA KHAN TO  
GORDON WHITE

# TEMPEST YACHTS

## THE DREAM BUILDERS

The boating industry was definitely a winner the day two years ago that Dick Simon, chairman of Tempest Yachts, decided to build his own yacht. He had thoroughly researched the market-place and had not found what he wanted. From that initial effort to create the very best boat for his personal use was born a line of yachts that has become synonymous with style, high performance, technological advancement and supreme luxury. The Tempest fleet now includes both sport yachts and motor yachts - customized and built to rigorous standards. Tempest yachts are found in the finest harbors of the world.

Simon is an enormously successful insurance mogul who started out as a youngster in his family's company in Chicago. He now owns Florida's largest automobile coverage insurance company, as well as affiliated companies in California.

He and his family moved to Miami a few years ago and now live in a beautiful waterfront home at the Tambrary Isle Yacht and Country Club. There he can indulge his passion for boating, golf, collecting rare wines, as well as giving of his time and money to favorite charitable endeavors that help needy children and the Miami Heart Institute.

Having a life-long love affair with boats, Simon

est - conditions. I also noticed that large powerboats on the market were limited in their ability to reach their top speeds and maneuver well in shallow waters."

Simon took decisive action. He decided to fill the gap and create a totally new concept in design and function. Thus was born Tempest Yachts.

A partnership was formed with Adam Erdberg, who now serves as president of Tempest, while Simon holds the post of chairman. Erdberg added the necessary technical background to oversee the operation with a constant eye to innovation and state-of-the-art technology; he holds an engineering degree from Technion Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel, and taught metallurgy at the same institute. As an officer in the Israeli Navy, he designed missile boats. Before joining Simon's venture, Erdberg was chief engineer for Cigarette and Bertram.

Under Erdberg's direction, the fleet in the fleet of Tempest Yachts came out of the starting gate with unique styling that has revolutionized high-tech engineering in the industry. A boat was designed housing the new famous, quiet and virtually vibration free T-Torque drive system and surface piercing propeller package developed by Tempest (patent pending).

to stem (as all Tempests) for the rigors of offshore operation.

The T-Torque drive system was just the beginning. Innovative developments from Tempest. Dick Simon's vision and daring, combined with Erdberg's technical prowess, have resulted in a line of yachts that now ranges from Tempest Sport/Yachts 44 motor yachts. These range from 42' to 85' with 305' presently on the drawing board and are nearly all built in the finest tradition of craftsmanship with top quality and space-age materials. Dick Tempest captures Dick Simon's original dream, bold Euro-styling and the ultimate in performance and offers clients the flexibility for personal input into the superstructure, the interior layout and



*Personalized service and style: The Tempest*

pointments, and the wide array of custom-ordered electronics. All new yachts from the 85' line come standard with your choice of the signature line of Pratese linens, placemats, napkins and towels. Also Lenox china, crystal bar and wine glasses as well as beautiful silver flatware.

"We have measured our success by our customers," says Simon, "whose level of taste and appreciation for quality are unparalleled." Tempest yachts are found in the finest harbors of the world and have been purchased by heads of state, captains of industry, royalty, and internationally renowned figures, entertainment and society. At home with its top names, Tempest has just contracted to build the Kinco line of powerboats designed by F.A. Pratese. "Tempest owners are discerning," says Jerry Burt, president of Global Yachts and Performance Boat Ltd., the marketing and distribution arm of Tempest Yachts. "They demand responsiveness from us, builder, and we give it to them."

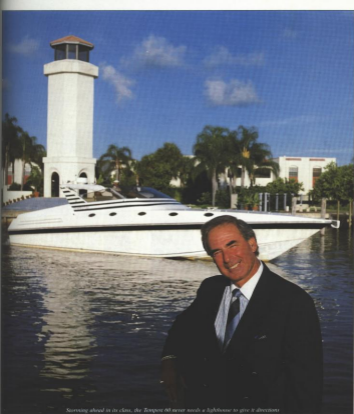
An example of this personalized service: Tempest provides a captain for 30 days for a new owner of 60-footer, to train and familiarize the client with sophisticated performance characteristics of his yacht, including all operation and maintenance procedures.



*Proving that dreams can become reality, Dick Simon proudly presents his new Tempest 60*

imported the first Riva Super America into the United States in 1976. "But I developed an insatiable appetite for a special kind of high performance powerboat," he says, "and I found that there was none to be found. I wanted a luxurious yacht, suitable for comfortable cruising and entertaining, but I also wanted to speed along in the nicest - or rough-

Dubbed the Tempest 44 Fast Coastal Interceptor, that first Tempest creation quickly became a whole fleet, the United States Coast Guard's flotilla of offshore high-speed chase boats used in search, rescue and intercept missions. The hull design of the Tempest 44 FCI is the same as the 44-foot pleasure boat version from Tempest, constructed from stem



*Surging ahead in its class, the Tempest 60 never needs a lighthouse to give it direction.*

Simon, whose former hobby was world-class powerboat racing, originated the concept to use a pace boat to start American Power Boat Association (APBA) races. He is an active member of the Tempest design team and is also the performance editor of the *Motorboating & Sailing* magazine.

Dick Simon's Tempest team has been busy indeed. A new clothing line is being launched, and the pilot de resistance, a corporate headquarters and factory, has just been completed. The brand new facility has quadrupled the Tempest space to 50,000 square feet along the waterfront of North Miami Beach, Flori-

da. It will house administration, manufacturing and service covering worldwide operations.

Simon's dream has affected more than the marketplace of today. Tempest has become a company that is shaping the face of the yachts of tomorrow: in style.

*By Samantha Hudson*