



301 N. Lathrop Avenue Savannah, GA 31415 USA
www.globalshipsystems.com 912.443.0790

GLOBAL SHIP SYSTEMS WELCOMES UDO WEIDAUER TO ITS SAVANNAH, GA YARD



SAVANNAH, GA — Udo Weidauer, a yachting industry veteran who was at the forefront of the production of some of the world's most well known megayachts, has joined Global Ship Systems as Director, Yard Operations.

Weidauer, who joined Germany's Luersssen in November 1979 as a project manager for the construction of fast-patrol crafts for the Middle East, comes to Savannah after serving as president of Fides Enterprises, a marine consulting firm providing services to Marina 92 in Barcelona, Spain, and Luersssen's shipyards in Bremen. Upon his acceptance of the GSS position, Weidauer expressed his enthusiasm about his future in Savannah.

"I think Savannah has great potential in competing for work in the marine industry. This is the only place in the country that can work on the big boats (over 100m). The Global Ship Systems shipyard is a wonderful facility," he said. A technical college graduate in marine engineering, Weidauer's career began in 1976 when he served as a marine engineer in the German merchant Navy. It was there that he achieved a chief engineer license for unlimited power plants. His long-time association with Luersssen included duties in Bahrain as the chief technical adviser to the Bahrain Navy where he was assigned to oversee the warranty, facilities construction, and to create a preventive maintenance program for the entire fleet. Weidauer's entry into megayacht refit and repair included work on the world's largest motoryachts. Among his credits, were duties as project manager in the production of the stunning motoryachts Coral Island and Limitless, and in the conversion of Eco to Katana. (Ironically, those yachts he helped build are repeat customers at Global Ship Systems.) Other prestigious projects under Weidauer's expertise include a complete refit (including interior, mechanical and engineering work) for the state yacht of the Sultan of Oman. In December 1999, Weidauer joined Derektor Shipyards in Ft. Lauderdale, FL as president in charge of day-to-day operations in administration, production, purchasing, accounting, and public relations, as well as the expansion of the shipyard.

Robert S. Creech III, Global Ship Systems CEO said, "We are thrilled that Udo has agreed to join our team. His previous experience in the initial production of many of our distinguished vessels, as well as his familiarity with those vessels, will refine repair, refit and service jobs at our company, insuring both efficient and timely completions. His experience in commercial, government and private luxury vessels is extensive and our clients will benefit from his expertise."

Global Ship Systems offers one of the largest, dry dock structures in the world. The Savannah facility boasts a 535' long graving dock with retractable cover; a covered boat house spanning the entire wet slip; a covered paint booth accommodating two ships up to 200' each, and a 160,000 square foot composite materials fabrication building, making it one of the most comprehensive and convenient sites on the East coast.

For more information, contact Beverly Filson, (912) 353-7732, ext.22. To make a reservation for service, contact Jim Stribling at (912) 443-0720.

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