

## SILENT-YACHTS EXPANDS REACH

The solar-electric catamaran builder has a new production partner in Turkey and is now part of Silent Group, an umbrella company for multiple Silent-related businesses.

ustrian-owned Silent-Yachts is building some of its solarelectric catamarans in Turkey following a partnership with VisionF Yachting, the catamaran builder created in 2019 by Coşkun Bayraktar, founder of the Viaport Group. Silent-Yachts, which secured a company-record 21 sales in 2021, also builds in Italy and Thailand.

VisionF has over 100,000sqm (10 hectares) of production area including the Viaport Marina Tuzla in east Istanbul. The Turkish builder has begun producing units of the Silent 60 and 80 series of solar-electric catamarans along with the brand's flagship Silent 120, formerly known as Silent 100 Explorer.

The new cooperation has also led to the new Silent VisionF 82, an 82ft hybrid model incorporating both conventional propulsion and renewable solar energy as Silent-Yachts helps the Turkish shipyard make its catamarans more sustainable. The model features solar panels on an extended hardtop and a powerful battery bank to power all onboard appliances silently.

Michael Köhler, founder and CEO of Silent-Yachts, said: "I'm immensely proud of what Silent-Yachts has achieved over the years. After beginning our research into solar yacht technologies in 2004, the company has evolved and expanded, and last year's sales show we continue to grow.

"We are now a truly international Group with diverse interests requiring more extensive resources and production space. This enables us to collaborate with other shipyards such as VisionF to assist them in harnessing solar technology as a step towards a more sustainable future."

As of mid-February, Silent-Yachts had 17 yachts in production across its three sites comprising eight 60 series models, six 80 series, one Silent 120 and two Silent VisionF 82 hybrid catamarans.

Köhler also announced a new corporate structure, with Silent-Yachts among several companies within Silent Group, which also includes divisions for tenders, management, charter, brokerage, resorts and an online shop. Silent-Tenders will start with a 4m electric model, while Silent-Shop is a web-based outlet for electric water toys, smart electric gadgets and Silent merchandising products.

Silent-Charter offers Silent catamarans for charter from the fleet base at Port Adriano in Mallorca and around the world, while Silent-Resorts is a developer of zero-carbon, ultra-sustainable resorts with luxurious solar-powered beachfront residences.

Silent-Brokerage offers brokerage services for pre-owned vessels for sale by Silent and its clients, while Silent-Management offers full management services for Silent clients including documentation, flag registration, certification, inspections, crew hiring, charter, yacht management and maintenance. §

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