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## Sailing through sea trials: Shinkai is a step closer to delivery

Shinkai, the 55m Vitruvius Yachts designed explorer, is nearing her delivery date at Feadship's Aalsmeer shipyard, having just completed sea trials in the North Sea's waters off The Netherlands.

As the creative force behind Shinkai's powerful yet elegant design, **Vitruvius Yachts' Philippe Briand** was onboard to experience her performance. Here, the designer and naval architect shares his thoughts on how she measured up to expectations during the critical sea trials assessment:

*"The cold, grey November weather presenting itself to us on the day of Shinkai's sea trials could not have been better to test her unique blend of rugged explorer meets comfortable superyacht. When you first step onboard, you are greeted by the 'tech beauty' of her striking red submersible and its accompanying immense 'goldorak' style crane; and then your attention is drawn to the glossy silver superyacht before you. A true rarity, she presents an inspiring combination of styles and capabilities.*

*"While traveling to the sea trials location in the North Sea, we heard hardly any noise from Shinkai's engines, with only 37dB measured in the cabins. Then Roderick de Vries and Feadship's team began the real testing process, pushing her hard: her rudder went to eight degrees and then 35 degrees at full speed, with the yacht leaning smoothly and heeling steadily before returning to an upright position surprisingly fast. The 20-tonne gyroscope was evidently working perfectly well.*

*"Shinkai's full-height reinforced windows delivering an astonishing 270-degree view. Experiencing her excellent performance first hand, after four years of involvement in her creation from the very beginning, I confirmed to her owner by phone that she will be the perfect protective and comfortable cocoon from which to explore all the world's oceans. And of course, Shinkai's design efficiency and Feadship de Vries' technology will help protect the planet's oceans, too!"*

### **About Philippe Briand – Founder and Designer of Vitruvius Yachts Ltd**

The internationally acclaimed naval architect and yacht designer Philippe Briand is a driving force in his field. He made his name designing award-winning sailing yachts under his own brand name ([www.philippebriand.com](http://www.philippebriand.com)) and building on that experience has led him to create a revolutionary range of motor yachts: [www.Vitruviusyachts.com](http://www.Vitruviusyachts.com)

Inspired by a childhood sailing in the yachting centre of La Rochelle, France, Philippe Briand has dedicated his life to perfecting the art of conquering the sea. His designs stand out for their technical excellence and precision, combined with his strong artistic flair and ability to drive innovative design trends as he seeks perfection. As one of the founders of Water Revolution Foundation he contributes to the standards moving towards the neutralization of the ecological footprint of the yachting industry, and Vitruvius Yachts are 30% more efficient than other yachts of comparable size.

With over 12,000 boats built to date Philippe Briand could reasonably be considered the most prolific yacht designer of our time. His loyal client base of extremely discerning owners appreciate his collaborative approach to design – they are involved at every stage of shaping their own remarkable superyacht. With offices in both London and La Rochelle, Briand and his team of designers and engineers work with yacht owners around the world who are looking for the very best.

# VITRUVIUS YACHTS

The impressive range of Vitruvius Yachts may range in size to over 100m in length . Briand's meticulous attention to detail means they are perfected to the nearest millimetre. This dedicated approach to intelligent, sustainable yet stunningly elegant design has been recognized internationally with 34 prestigious yacht awards so far.

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