

A Marine Alliance of Architecture and Design

The completion of a 140-meter cruise ship demonstrates Stirling Design International's commitment to the conceptual design of outstanding ships.



Le Boreal on its maiden cruise in May 2010 – Photo credit: PHILIP PLISSON

The aim at the heart of the Le Boreal and L'Austral designs was the concept of a cruising yacht. Entirely successful, the completed ships emanate a majestic and contemporary ambiance. Custom-built at the Fincantieri Shipyard in Ancona, Italy, Le Boreal was delivered to Compagnie du Ponant in April 2010. As the fourth ship of their cruise fleet, she can accommodate 260 passengers in 132 cabins which all have sea views and nearly all of which have private balconies.

Her pure, streamlined silhouette was created by Stirling Design International in Nantes, France. Le Boreal has just been awarded a Gold Medal by the European Cruiser Association. This prize was given in recognition of her elegance, personality, innovative equipment and the meticulous attention to detail in the design of the ship to fulfill the expectations of her passengers.



"Le Boreal meets our highest standards in terms of quality. The ship therefore deserves this award as 'Best Newcomer of the Year 2010'. It is not only about her particular style, it is also the inclusion of state-of-the-art, eco-friendly technologies that tipped the balance in her favor", said Stefan Jaeger, President of the European Cruiser Association.

Stirling Design International (SDI) is one of the rare French firms of naval designers and architects specialized in the design of megayachts and commercial vessels.

Founded in 1976 by Joël Brétécher, architect and former Ferrari designer at Pininfarina, SDI rapidly entered several industrial fields, including naval design and aeronautics. Delivery of the cruise ship Le Ponant in 1991 - one of the most beautiful cruise yachts of the era – made SDI's name internationally for interior and exterior design in a decisively modern style.

Delivered to Compagnie du Ponant in 1998, Le Levant, is a thoroughbred yacht whose interior and exterior design was produced by SDI. In 2003, Heloval, a 42-meter luxury motor yacht with timeless lines built by CMN in Cherbourg was acclaimed as one of the five finest vessels of the year by the International Superyacht Society.



Profile studies for the Le Boreal project – Photo credit: STIRLING DESIGN INTERNATIONAL

In 2007, Thibaut Tincelin, who trained as a naval architect with the Ecole Polytechnique and Delft University of Technology, became director of SDI's naval architecture and design office, after gaining professional expertise in the Saint Nazaire, Lorient and Miami yards of the shipbuilder Chantiers de l'Atlantique.

SDI's decision to combine technical and aesthetic excellence in the marine sector is an essential strong point. This command of interior design, exterior styling and naval engineering implies that the design stages can be shortened and considerable innovative capacity released.

In recent years SDI has contributed to several exceptional projects for well-known shipyards including STX Europe, Fincantieri and Abu Dhabi Mar. Delivery of the 140-meter cruise ships

to Compagnie du Ponant – Le Boreal in May 2010 and L'Austral in May 2011 – will mark the history of both Compagnie du Ponant and Stirling Design International.

These exceptional cruise ships are the fruit of extensive design work in close collaboration with the cruise line and the shipyards. The radical new shapes of these vessels, envisioned as large private yachts, feature large arched windows that provide aesthetic and functional continuity between the interior and exterior passenger spaces. The remarkable design of these ships, the first new constructions for Compagnie du Ponant since its merger with the CMA CGM group, has won over both regular clients and new customers wishing to discover outstanding cruises.

Aside from this news, in the last two years SDI has made an essential contribution to the development of the ecological cruise ship 'EOSEAS' for STX Europe by providing a revolutionary concept and architecture for a multihull cruise ship with semi-rigid sails. This technology platform which is intended to offer its passengers a decisively modern sailing experience halves the ship's carbon footprint.



“EOSEAS” Cruise Ship Concept – Photo credit: STIRLING DESIGN INTERNATIONAL / STX EUROPE

For three years now SDI has been contributing to eco design. It worked on the development and launch of one of the first commercial software programs for ship life cycle analysis, SSD (Sustainable Ship Design), today used by major shipyards, suppliers and naval architects.

Based on this all-important experience, Thibaut Tincelin and Joël Brétécher are now vigorously pursuing projects in varied sectors ranging from private yachts, floating habitats and establishments, electric passenger boats to private jets.

Please visit Stirling Design International representatives during SMM Hamburg, Hall B4.0G, Stand 20.

*Thibaut Tincelin
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LE BOREAL MAIN PARTICULARS

Length overall	142.1 m
Length between pp	126.2 m
Beam	18 m
Draught	4.7 m
Jauge	10700 UMS
Passenger cabins	132
Total Passengers	264
Crew cabins	75
Total crew	139

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