

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 5 AUGUST 2019 2019 SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW – A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

The Sydney International Boat Show closed tonight having enjoyed five glorious sunny days at the International Convention Centre Sydney and the Show's purpose-built marina on Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour. Visitors to the show were treated to a broad offering that highlighted the diversity of recreational boating, and the ease by which people of all ages and abilities can participate.

Darren Vaux, President of the Boating Industry Association Ltd (BIA), owners and organisers of the event, said "Boating appeals and is accessible to people from all walks of life. This year's Boat Show has demonstrated that. We're very pleased with the diversity of the offering and the quality of the displays for our guests to enjoy."

The event delivered numerous memorable moments. Friday's official function bought together many of the industry's leaders and stakeholders. Parliamentary Secretary Eleni Petinos provided an update on the Government's latest activities and announced a new Personal Watercraft campaign due for release later in the year, whilst BIA President Darren Vaux delivered a compelling insight into the shifting dynamics of the boating world. The function ended with special guest Michelle Lee sharing her experience of crossing the Atlantic solo non-stop in a rowboat.

On Sunday night the show hosted the graduation ceremony for NSW TAFE students of the 2018 class in Marine Technology Certificate 3. Students gathered with their families, employers as well as teachers both past and present.

General Manager of Marketing and Events for the BIA, Domenic Genua said, "Our intention this year was to take our visitors on a journey. Our desire was to share all that is good about recreational boating. Covering one hundred percent of the exhibition facilities, the show delivered seven halls of exhibits over two levels, and to complement that, the external Event Deck and Marina both proved very popular with visitors."

Visitor numbers were on par with last year. Julie Balzano visiting with a delegation from the USA's National Marine Manufacturers Association, describing the show's attendance as "solid".

Daily attendance was: Thursday 7,158, Friday 11,840, Saturday 17,888, Sunday 18,033 and the very important final trading day received 5,231 visitors. Total visitors for 2019 were 60,149, an increase of 396 people across the 5 days of the show, compared to 2018.

The BIA also expressed its gratitude to all the event partners, and particularly to the Show's Partner in Safety, Transport for NSW.

2020 show dates have already been locked-in for Thursday 30th July to Monday 3rd August. Ends/...

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The Boating Industry Association Ltd (BIA) is a not-for-profit industry organisation. It was formed through the amalgamation of the state Boating Industry Association bodies in New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory and is the peak body that represents the boating industry in Australia. BIA members adhere to a voluntary Code of Practice and Code of Ethics. Member companies include businesses who manufacture, wholesale or retail products and services within or associated with the boating industry. The BIA's objectives include promoting growth in participation in recreational boating, representing our members interests with government in areas of safety, infrastructure and the reduction of regulatory burden, professional development of our members and developing career pathways for new entrants to the industry, educating the public about boating safety and promoting practices that protect the environment. For more information, please visit www.bia.org.au

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