



MALAYSIAN FOOD AWARDS OUTSIDE OF MALAYSIA

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Malaysian boat-builder bags

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Sunday April 17, 2005

Malaysian boat-builder bags award

BY LEE YUK PENG

MALACCA: Malaysian builder of composite domes and yachts Dian Kreatif Sdn Bhd has bagged one of the awards in the inaugural Christofle Asia Boating Awards.

The company's managing director Hannes Waimer received the award – the Best Asian Yacht Builder (below 30.5m category) – during the China International Boat Show in Shanghai on April 9.

Dian Kreatif, based in Bukit Berendam here, is the only Malaysian company among the 12 winners of the awards, which were open to yachts featured in Asia-Pacific boating magazines last year.

The company beat eight other nominees – two from Thailand, one from Taiwan, one from Indonesia and four from China – to win in its category.

Its executive director Khalilur Rahman Ebrahim, 57, said the award had boosted staff morale and shown that Malaysians could be world players, too.



SYMBOL OF PRIDE: Khalilur Rahman and Waimer showing the award their company won at the China International Boat Show recently.

"We feel proud that our yachts have been recognised and a Malaysian product has reached international standards," he said.

Waimer said the award had also helped to boost the DK Yachts brand on the international market.

Dian Kreatif was founded in 1997 and is the only company in Malaysia that builds composite yachts.

The company had exported all the yachts built here until this year when it received a RM10mil contract from the Royal Malaysian Navy for two yachts.

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Yachts built by the company have won in various races including the King's Cup Regatta in Phuket in 2003 and last year, and the Sydney Hobart Race last year.

Dian Kreatif has also built composite domes for the Prime Minister's office, the Palace of Justice and Masjid Putra – all in Putrajaya – and for Masjid Albukhari in Alor Star.

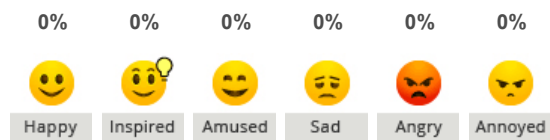
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