

EXPRESSION OF HIGH PERFORMANCE AND ELEGANCE

| **Felci Yachts**
Felci 65



“THE INTERIOR DESIGN, VERY CLASSIC AND LINEAR, COMBINES NATURAL TEAK SURFACES, LACQUERED PANELS, PRECIOUS MATERIALS AND FINISHES OF THE HIGHEST LEVEL.”

The request from the owner, a man of great nautical experience, was to design an ultra-performing boat that is extremely comfortable and very elegant. The owner of the Felci 65 wanted their brand-new superyacht to be a unique vessel. The new Felci 65 combines sea worthiness qualities as well as speed with safety and ease of handling. All of this has been characterised by a high level of innovation and elegance. It was a must that the Felci 65 would be able to go great lengths offshore racing and be fit for a relaxing and comfortable ride.

Felci Yachts entrusted the construction of the Felci 65 in Persico Marine. Working together they have been able to create a truly unique yacht that is equipped with an innovative and aggressive external style and a modern and elegant interior architecture. The interior design, very classic and linear, combines natural teak surfaces, lacquered panels, precious materials and finishes of the highest level. It is apparent that the goal was for the result to be clear and simple, an interior that suits correctly and is “function based.” The “luxury” had been interpreted as the minimalism and efficiency of few selected elements and of a very simple and clean style.

Felci 65 was created to allow the owner to race at high levels and even in demanding

conditions. The deck equipment is to the best standard, brilliant for a cruise and for offshore racing. All hatches, made of carbon, direct part of the deck, light and strong but flush with the rest of deck and made of full glass for a minimal look and maximum light inside

The search for the minimal deformation of the yacht under load was one of the key elements during the structural design. This also involved its integration with the interiors that led the structure to become a component of the furniture itself. The Felci 65 by Persico is the latest expression of high performance, elegance and comfort in one fascinating sailing yacht.

Inside it is interesting to note that many elements can be removed to make the boat lighter when racing and to avoid damaging some delicate parts. For example, a big part of the owner forward cabin is removable, to create a large area where to store gennakers, which could possibly be wet, when racing without destroying furniture and elegant leather panels and teak surfaces.

The moment the owners of this ultra-performing yacht saw the boat painted for the first time, Interior designer Felci Yachts and Persico Marine were truly touched.



UMBERTO FELCI

Felci Yachts Founder

LORENZO GIOVANNOZZI

Felci Yachts Partner

Tell us a little about your background

Umberto Felci: My background starts from many year of professional racing activity as 470 helmsman and from my Architectural studies at Milano Polytechnic. The natural consequence of these two peculiarities was that of becoming a yacht designer. The best way to combine passion and professionalism in a single activity.

Lorenzo Giovannozzi: I started sailing in racing dinghies as a child and became fascinated with everything nautical, from the boats themselves to navigation. Then I decided to enrol in the Faculty of Aeronautical Engineering at Milan Polytechnic so that I would be able to study in depth the world of both aero and fluid dynamics.

Please give us a brief overview of your submission for The International Yacht & Aviation Awards 2018.

We have decided to submit our latest project, now in advanced state of construction in Persico Marine, because in this moment it represent the best expression of our vision of a sailing yacht. Elegant, fast and safe, three elements difficult to combine but necessary to generate a top project in the in the true sense of the word.

What other projects have you/are you working on that you would like to discuss?

In this moment we have two important projects under construction: One is the new ICE60, that's the latest design developed for ICE YACHTS after the commercial successes of the ICE 52 and ICE 33. The second one is the new Dufour 48 Catamaran, completely designed by Felci Yachts tha will be presented at Cannes Boat Show in September.

This project follows the full mono-hull ranges created by Felci Yachts for this important French shipyard.

What do you feel separates you as a company from your competitors?

Difficult to say, in my mind the fact that me and my partner had been involved for so many years in racing is an important feature. This knowhow, enriched by Architectural and Engineers studies, is 100% the best base you can have to develop a winning project. The rest is a matter of elegance, sensitivity and life background, something that comes out by himself, even if unrequested, in every project.

Do you have any predictions for upcoming trends/design directions?

We must have. We work for many different brands and, even if with different targets, they all want to sell boats. To do this you have to present the right product at the right time. We usually collaborate with our ideas and our vision at the product development. May happen that the trend to follow is different for different shipyards, due to different target clients. So we try not

to constrain our vision into some simple parameter, in order to have a very open mindset towards the future.

Please describe any relevant technological advancements that may have influenced/affected your work in recent years.

We work designing, so the main innovation for our work had been the strong development mad by hardware and software. We have now instruments that only three years ago were unimaginable and this has a great influence in the latest project, under any aspects of them, from naval architecture, to structures and to style and details development.

What do you feel are the biggest challenges the superyacht/aviation industry will have to face in the future?

Make sustainable "objects". For us "sailors" may be the step is not so big. We are designing the best intrinsically hybrid "means of transport" but I think that motor yachts of any size and I imagine also private aviation, must work with a sustainable product in mind. The necessity to use alternative energy will be a main factor in future projects, joined by the recycling of our so much-loved boat.

Do you have any plans for 2018 you would like to share?

For sure the launch of the new ICE 60, the new Dufour Catamarans, and the imminent launch of the Felci 65 by Persico are three main challenge. We are also starting some bigger yachts project at the moment, but they will need 2019 as well.

