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profile

Neil Gilbert is the principal in a full service design firm located in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia, Canada. His work spans three decades and is a major force in the product design industry today. His clients have reaped the benefits of leading-edge, clever and innovative designs, elevating their brands to the forefront of their industries. Customers also continually achieve greater market share and profitability.

Neil Gilbert began his career as an apprentice boat builder working for the prestigious custom yacht division at C&C, under the direct tutelage of George H. Cuthbertson. Neil's innate feel for design – coupled with a hands-on approach to boat building – allowed him to quickly ascend to a senior design position at the C&C Design Group. During his tenure, he was responsible for the design and management of several celebrated products. A thirst for new challenges drove him to the powerboat industry. As senior designer for both Doral Boats and later Champion Marine, Neil's designs have reshaped the face of the Canadian pleasure boat industry.

Neil's flexibility and experience allow him to perform beyond expectations, either as a standalone design firm, or as a complement to an existing engineering department.

Gilbert Creative's clients include: Malibu Boats, Hinckley Yachts, Hunt Naval Architects, Southport Boat Works, Twin Anchors Marine, Sea Sun Capital Corporation, Interior Fiberglass, and Vector Powerboats, to name a few.

Neil's design sense and style have provided an exceptional fit for other disciplines as well, resulting in many celebrated successes in product design as well as image and branding.

For a full portfolio please visit gilbertcreative.ca

experience

CAMPION MARINE INC. 1994 TO 2002

Director Research and Development

- Hull, deck and interior design and development
- Project management of new products, from design, engineering, graphics and development, to introduction into the production line and on-going updates and improvements
- Annual model line facelifts and on-going improvements to the product.
- Consultation with production, purchasing, sales and customer service departments, as well as interaction with dealers and suppliers.
- Supervision and coordination of 10 development personnel

CADORETTE MARINE CO./DORAL BOATS LTD. 1989 TO 1994

Director Research and Development

- Hull, deck and interior design and development
- Project management of new products, from design, engineering, graphics and development, to introduction into the production line and on-going updates and improvements

- Annual model line facelifts and on-going improvements to the product.
- Consultation with production, purchasing, sales and customer service departments, as well as interaction with dealers and suppliers.
- Supervision and coordination of 10 development personnel

GILBERT YACHTS LIMITED 1986 TO 1989

Vice President/Chief Designer

- Design, tooling and production supervision of the Gilbert 30+, an innovative 30-foot production sailboat:
- Complete design from conceptual to final engineering and parts
- Business plan development and fund-raising
- All facets of pre-production including development of molds and components, as well as supplier and bill of materials
- Active participation in sales & marketing including boat shows, dealer development and customer service
- Full responsibility for production including scheduling, quality control and day-to-day management of the production line.

Accomplishments:

Gilbert 30+ voted "Most Innovative Production Boat of the Year" by Sailing World magazine

Gilbert 30+ voted runner-up "Import Boat of the Year" by Sailing World magazine

C&C YACHTS DESIGN GROUP 1980 TO 1986

Senior Designer

- Senior Designer reporting to chief designer and product committee:
- Responsible for various areas of design and development working within a group of as many as nine designers and naval architects
- Hull, deck, interior, rig and appendage design, as well as engineering calculations and performance prediction
- Project management of several models including production and custom designs.

C&C YACHTS CUSTOM DIVISION 1977 TO 1981

Apprentice

FRP custom and production boat-building:

Four-year apprenticeship in modern fiberglass boat construction including complete education and practical experience in all departments: lofting, plug making, mold making, cabinetry, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, metalworking and finishing.

Accomplishments:

First Journeyman Fiberglass Boat Builder certified in Canada

Referrals upon request