

# MEGAYACHT NEWS

The Trusted Source for Information on Megayachts, Builders, Designers, and Owners

## Greetings!



There's an analogy that captains are akin to the heads of small corporations. They manage budgets and bill paying, hire and and mentor crew (and deal with a host of employee-related situations), and more. They're the extra eyes and ears of the owners, and rightfully so. The trouble is, there hasn't been the same emphasis on nor access to leadership training for them as there has been for navigational skills. Until now.

The [Yacht Captains Association](#) (YCA), formed to bolster career development and education to in turn enhance captains' professionalism, recently signed a memorandum of understanding with a division of Florida-based Nova Southeastern University. The school's Hudson Center of Entrepreneurship and

Executive Education will make its existing programs available to YCA members and create new ones tailored to their specific needs. The YCA and Hudson Center will further collaborate on research initiatives via surveys and other methods to gather more reliable data on pressing issues.

Considering corporations encourage employees to take advantage of career-development opportunities, shouldn't yacht captains be treated the same? To be clear, the captains I've met are quite professional; but, they're expected to be human resources managers, accountants, and all-around business brains without much, if any, assistance.

Do you agree or disagree? [Email me](#) to share your opinion.

Diane M. Byrne  
editor, Megayacht News

## Tahiti Cuts Charter Tax

*rate more than halved, to 5%*

In recognition that its waters are gaining popularity with charter yachts, the government of Tahiti has greatly reduced the tax levied against these visitors. Now, the rate is five percent of gross revenue, vs. 12 percent.

According to Etienne Boutin, an agent with [Asia Pacific Superyachts Tahiti](#), French Polynesia first instituted charter-yacht regulations in the mid-1990s. While they were simplified about a decade ago, the government has taken note of the number of megayachts adding the region to their itineraries. More than 100 yachts have applied for cruising licenses in that same decade, for example.

The reduced charter rate, in combination with duty-free stays recently extended to 36 months, should entice further yacht charters.

If you're interested in cruising the region, [Asia Pacific Superyachts Tahiti](#) will coordinate the charter license application on your behalf. It will further take care of all related paperwork to alleviate your crew's duties.

