



SPECIALIST  
PROFESSIONAL  
INDEMNITY  
INSURANCE

FACT SHEET SERIES: 27

# Superyacht professionals

Specialist professional indemnity insurance

ITIC  
IS MANAGED  
BY **THOMAS  
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@ITIC insurance

## Expert view

### Who does ITIC cover?

- Yacht brokers
- Yacht managers
- Yacht agents
- Crew managers
- Yacht designers
- Marine surveyors
- Consultants

**ITIC has wide experience in assisting superyacht professionals in minimising the financial impact arising from such mistakes as:**

- **Yacht manager's failure to maintain yacht** – when engines or equipment fail on a yacht, an owner may turn to the manager to recover their losses.
- **Yacht broker's misdescription** – if a yacht is not what the buyer thought they were buying, they often seek to blame their broker for misrepresenting the sale.
- **Naval architect's negligence** – superyachts are complex structures. Errors in the design can lead to very expensive losses.
- **Crew manager's failure to appoint suitable crew** – if the crew are not certified to perform the jobs for which they are hired, the owner will be in breach of the terms of their insurances and the yacht manager will be liable.

### You don't have to make a mistake to be sued.

You could receive a claim even if you were not negligent in the provision of your services. ITIC insurance covers defence costs, which can be extremely expensive.

**The team understands these problems and is here to help.**

## FACT SHEET SERIES: 27 SUPERYACHT PROFESSIONALS



**ITIC's extensive experience in your sector drives our proactive service. We help you foresee potential problems; thus avoiding them. Should mistakes ever become critical issues, professional indemnity cover from ITIC gives you the peace of mind that you have experts on your side.**

## Don't rock the boat

**A yacht broker incorrectly marketed a yacht as having zero speed stabilisers, which it in fact did not have. The owners of the yacht brought a claim against the broker alleging that this misdescription in the run up to the summer season had cost them lost chartering income of €500,000.**

ITIC analysed the claim from the owners and discovered that only one single week's lost charter had resulted from this error. The yacht broker had been able to find charters that season regardless of the misdescription.

Furthermore, the owners had not complied with the broker's request to keep the yacht fully available for charter, instead putting it into the yard for repair work during this period.

Faced with these arguments, the yacht owner reduced his claim to €30,000. ITIC continued to assist the yacht broker in defending the claim from the yacht owner, until the yacht owner decided to withdraw his claim.

## Policy highlights

- Worldwide professional indemnity (errors & omissions) cover
- Legal defence costs insurance
- Automatic cover for subcontractors
- Contractual risk management guidance
- Support from worldwide network of correspondents
- Discretionary insurance adjudicated upon by fellow transport industry professionals
- Quality loss prevention advice
- No external shareholders
- Mutual dividends paid at renewal
- Underwritten with industry knowledge

## Incorrect calculations

**A naval architect was appointed to re-design and certify part of a mast support structure on a large sailing yacht. The naval architect had no involvement in the original design of the yacht. As the refit neared completion, the architect realised that the calculations he was using in relation to the strength of the plate on which the mast was to sit were incorrect. This could have resulted in the mast pushing through the plate when the vessel was operated. Significant work (including stripping out part of the accommodation and fuel tanks) was required to install a thicker plate.**

When this additional work was completed, the architect was presented with an invoice for €200,000 which his clients alleged represented the additional costs incurred by them as a result of the architect's late discovery of the incorrect calculations.

The architect sought advice from ITIC as to how to respond to this. ITIC instructed an independent expert to provide an opinion as to the alleged costs. ITIC then negotiated a reduced settlement of €125,000 with the claimants, based on the opinion obtained.

## A very taxing matter

**A yacht manager arranged on behalf of the owner to store a helicopter ashore whilst not in use. During a routine inspection by customs, it was found that the helicopter had stayed in the country for more than six months and was therefore now liable for payment of VAT in the amount of €150,000.**

Prior to arranging the storage, the manager had a meeting with the storage company. The manager had believed that an agreement had been reached where the company would be responsible for tax matters. However, the meeting was not followed up with written instructions. The company alleged that although the matter had been discussed, nothing had been agreed.

The owner was scheduled to board their yacht and required the helicopter to be delivered. The helicopter had since been seized by customs, and in order to release it, the manager had to pay the full amount of the VAT. The storage company rejected any liability for the failure to warn the manager that the helicopter had to be taken out of the country before VAT was payable.

Lawyers were instructed to consider a recovery action against the storage company. However, due to a lack of written evidence, there was less than a 50% chance of recovery. The manager was reimbursed by ITIC in full for the VAT of €150,000.

# Facts & figures at a glance

All figures US\$  
All facts and figures correct as of 31st May 2025

## Gross premium

**\$76m**

for the year

## Claims paid

**\$520m**

since 1992

## Members

**3,741**

## Security rating

Backed by at least "A-" rated reinsurance programme

## Worldwide insurance cover

ITIC is able to provide professional indemnity insurance, without restrictions, worldwide. An ITIC account executive is responsible for each country and will be your first point of contact. The ITIC team speaks French, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Russian and Spanish.

## Credits paid

**\$223m**

surplus funds have been paid out to the members in the form of continuity credit since 1994

## Disbursements & commissions

**\$272m**

of disbursements and commissions collected for members since 1992

## Free reserves

**\$289m**

for ITIC and TIMIA combined

## Annual premium

from **\$1,300**  **\$2.1m**

ITIC is committed to consistently providing competitively priced professional indemnity insurance (and related insurance covers) with valuable and high quality loss prevention advice to businesses servicing the marine, aviation and general transport industry. The ITIC team have a wealth of experience and knowledge.

**36**

Staff

A full time team to provide you with the best service possible.

**16**

Years

Average staff member's experience in the insurance/transport industry.

**11**

Years

Average staff member's time with ITIC. Several staff have over 25 years of service.

**7**

Lawyers

7 lawyers and a dedicated claims team.



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