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A RADICAL DEPARTURE FROM THE PREVIOUS MOODY MODELS, BILL DIXON'S DESIGN FOR THE 45DS WAS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY HIS OWN SAILING EXPERIENCE. LAUNCHED IN 2008, IT'S STILL IN PRODUCTION TODAY AND IS SURPRISINGLY SPEEDY FOR ONE SO COMFORTABLE, AS DIXON EXPLAINS...




MOODY 45DS

"I think the design of the 45DS reflects a modern cruising lifestyle, and in many ways it very closely encompasses what I would ideally like in a cruising yacht, for the type of boating I do with my family. Sailing isn't just about thrashing to windward, it's about comfort and the enjoyment you get living aboard and feeling closer to the environment.

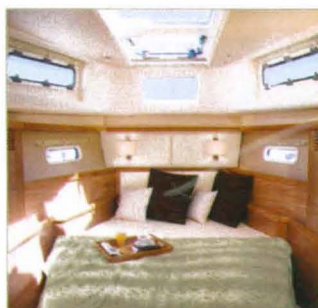
Interestingly, it appeals to a wide range of owners, and to many different markets around the world. One of the biggest markets for the DS series is Australia, where the deck saloon and the amount of shade from the sun is a big selling point.

The 45DS was a significant design in my career – nothing had ever been designed like it before. Most of our designs tend to be evolutionary rather than revolutionary, but with this boat every aspect of the design evolved from scratch. The challenge of designing any yacht is looking at all the different aspects at once, because they impact on one another; even elements of the hull design are influenced by the helm position, for example. I really enjoy coming up with designs that break the mould, and I love this one – it's practical, striking, and gives you a feeling of security. The large deck saloon makes a good-looking yacht, and for me the interaction between the saloon and the cockpit is a great feature. Visibility was something that we spent many hours optimising, which is where practical knowledge comes into play because I had to imagine how the boat would be used in different situations.

What I find interesting is that people don't realise the Moody DS designs are fast sailing boats... Two Moody 54DS competed in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race this year, as you can imagine in comfort compared to most of the other yachts!" 



BILL DIXON'S STAND-OUT DESIGNS



"TWO MOODY 54DS COMPETED IN THE SYDNEY TO HOBART YACHT RACE THIS YEAR... IN COMFORT COMPARED TO MOST OF THE OTHER YACHTS!"



"The Hanse Group chose us to design the new models for Sealine, and we have completed three designs so far. In my opinion the Sealine 530 is, in many ways, ground-breaking in its design and functionality."



"Yanneke Too was the first Superyacht I designed, back in 1993. This was a very personal design for a knowledgeable owner, so for a young designer to get such a prestigious commission was extremely special."



"We were delighted to get a World Superyacht Award for Antares III. It was our third design for this client, who – believe it or not – was an owner who bucked the trend, downsizing in this design from 40 to 30 metres!"



"A large part of our business today is motorboats and motoryachts. The Johnson 87 we designed back in 2002 was ground-breaking: a design with huge beam and striking styling with vertical glass. This design was a great success with nearly 50 boats built."



"Designing custom superyachts is always special, but it is made more so when a customer comes back time and time again. Heureka is our third design for this client, and it has been a pleasure to evolve the design with them."



"Performance is important in our designs, and one superyacht that epitomises this is Liara, a 100-foot carbon sailing yacht. Despite being a luxurious yacht, she has competed in races like the Fastnet and the Caribbean 600."

