



CASE STUDY

Land Rover BAR
Champion Supplier
MDL Marinas,
Official Marina
Partner



MDL Marinas:
Hamble Point Marina,
School Lane, Hamble,
Southampton, Hampshire
40 years operating in the
marina sector

Marinas:
18 nationwide,
2 international
(Italy & Spain)

The supplier

Southampton based MDL Marinas became a base supplier to the British America's Cup team in 2015, supporting as official UK Marina Partner and building a partnership around shared core values of pride, innovation and experience.

Together with a joint mind-set, two pontoons were designed and constructed: a permanent structure at the team's HQ in Old Portsmouth and an innovative, custom-made rotating pontoon, housed at the team's temporary base in Bermuda and operational during the team's campaign for the 35th America's Cup.

Power of partnerships

All sports team have their pitch and for Land Rover BAR, it's the ocean. The team is supported by Exclusive Sustainability Partner 11th Hour Racing and utilises the power of partnerships to extend an influence beyond the race course.

Committed to environmental improvement and operating sustainably, MDL Marinas is the first Champion Supplier the team is showcasing. MDL has a dedicated Environmental Policy Manager and supports The Green Blue, the environmental awareness campaign for the boating community. Like Land Rover BAR, MDL is also proud to provide all of its electricity from 100% renewable sources, and have their own onsite water heating by solar PV at Sparkes Marina, Hayling Island.

#RaisingTheBAR





Future initiatives

Supported by Land Rover BAR, MDL Marinas are looking at implementing more long-term sustainability management projects. Continuing support of marine ecology is a fundamental part of its focus and inspired by the team's biodiversity incentives whilst in Bermuda, including coral nurseries and invasive species awareness campaigns led by 11th Hour Racing, MDL is looking at developing biosecurity programmes and further habitat enhancements across its marinas:

Following the **Oyster pilot project**, MDL identified four further sites in the Solent suitable to house brood stock cages and installed these in 2017. 5,000 oysters were relocated across the sites and a programme of regular monitoring of growth and reproduction was put in place. Together with BLUE, their goal is to re-introduce five million oysters back into the Solent, within the next five years.

A **Biosecurity programme**, which MDL has identified as a key project, will help prevent the introduction of non-native species into its marinas – this is a global issue due to the ongoing frequency of international travel of goods, equipment, vessels and people.

Special projects

SOLENT OYSTER RESTORATION

In 2015, Land Rover BAR and MDL teamed up with the Blue Marine Foundation and Portsmouth University on a campaign to restore the historic Solent **oyster** population. The Solent was once Europe's largest **oyster** fishery and the team launched the pilot project, re-housing **1,000 oysters**

in protected cages on the pontoon. Each oyster filters 200 litres of water per day and even in the industrial setting of the Camber dock, the project has helped increase local biodiversity, and combined with the teams terrestrial biodiversity hub has contributed to providing habitats for an estimated 90 species.

THE SEABIN

In 2017, the UK's first commercial **Seabin** was installed on the team's Portsmouth pontoon, alongside the re-housed oysters. The Seabin is an automated rubbish collection device to collect floating debris and micro plastics. The team is expecting to remove half a tonne of debris from the waters around The Camber each year, as well as removing pollutants such as oils and detergents.

BEE HOTELS

In recent years there's been a significant decrease in the **bee** population and this summer MDL's pilot **Bee hotel** will be installed at Hamble Point Marina. If the project is successful, the 'hotels' will be rolled out at marinas nationwide. Supporting and providing bee habitats is essential to preserving the environment as bees have a fundamental impact on plant growth and local farming.



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All enquiries, comments or suggestions related to the case studies should be directed to sustainability@landroverbar.com