









WARM WELCOME

In 64 countries around the world, powerboat races are being organised under UIM leadership with an increasing number of participating drivers and nationalities.

Our sport has a rich heritage that spans more than 100 years. We are committed to its continued growth, extending its global appeal across all continents whilst strengthening the UIM position as the world governing body of power boating and its driving force. We have introduced a new strategic approach and the plan we are implementing is showing very encouraging results.

for example, our environmental good practices have been the catalyst for the cooperation agreement with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), with the objective to extend environmental initiatives while sharing information and know-how. In addition, an agreement was reached with the other leading motor sport world governing bodiesto jointly focus on optimal use of resources, reduction of pollution

The UIM recognises the significant challenges facing motor sports today in areas such as new technologies, the environment, alternative energies and sustainable development and is committed to drive the necessary change. To do so we must also strengthen relationships with key leading sports bodies. If we are to properly serve our sport, it is imperative to understand more fully the global sports landscape. The full recognition given to the UIM by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is a landmark for our endeavours.

The UIM is accountable to its national federations, promoters, competitors and all other stakeholders to look after the sport whilst providing strong and impartial governance. Our priority projects include continuous improvements in safety, youth development and fight against doping. I am impressed by the passion and generosity of the power boating community, many of whom are volunteers, working tirelessly for the good of the sport. In my role as President of the Union Internationale Motonautique I will make all possible efforts to turn our shared vision into reality and build together a great future for our sport.































OURHERITAGE

The UIM is probably the oldest world governing body in motorsport; its roots can be reliably traced back to 1902 when the British formed their Marine Motoring Association. By the following year both the Americans and French had formulated constitutions for their respective associations.

Contested mostly in boats with vertical stem and flat bottoms, relying more on brute force and courage than hydraulic efficiency, the rich and famous took their pleasures on the water quite seriously. Emerging competition on both sides of the Atlantic would increase the professionalism of the sport and spark public imagination.

It was in 1922 and due largely to the lobbying efforts of an Englishman, Dr. Morton Smart, and an ex-patriot Irishman living in Belgium, John Ward, that an international authority was established in Brussels. The Union Internationale du Yachting Automobile would prove to be the precursor of today's modern administration.

y 1927, a permanent administrative base had been acquired, the first set of sporting rules introduced and a race calendar published. After a further change of name to the now familiar Union Internationale vlotonautique, the association was ready to welcome more nations to its fold and amongst its first intake were Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Holland, Ireland, Monaco, Norway, Poland, weden and the United States of America.

The Second World War inevitably brought an end to all marine sporting endeavours, though it was coincidentally responsible for much of the technical development which gave the modern sport its direction, particularly in areas of hull and engine design. In 1946, the UIM, which had emerged largely unscathed from the hostilities, moved its administrative base from Brussels to Ghent and began a progressive programme of sporting, technical, administrative and safety development that over five decades would shape the UIM into the body which is recognisable today. Powerboating may have roots firmly bedded in amateurism but today it is enveloped by professionalism at all levels.

Geographical growth, environmental issues, financial pressures and the quest for media exposure continue to increase the complexities of the organisation's role as it delivers governance and change. In recent years, supported by the emergence of independent promoters across all five continents, the UIM, now based in Monaco, has increased its global influence and operates in more than 60 countries worldwide. That trend looks set to continue as powerboating's ultimate authority builds a legacy that will safeguard the sport for future generations.



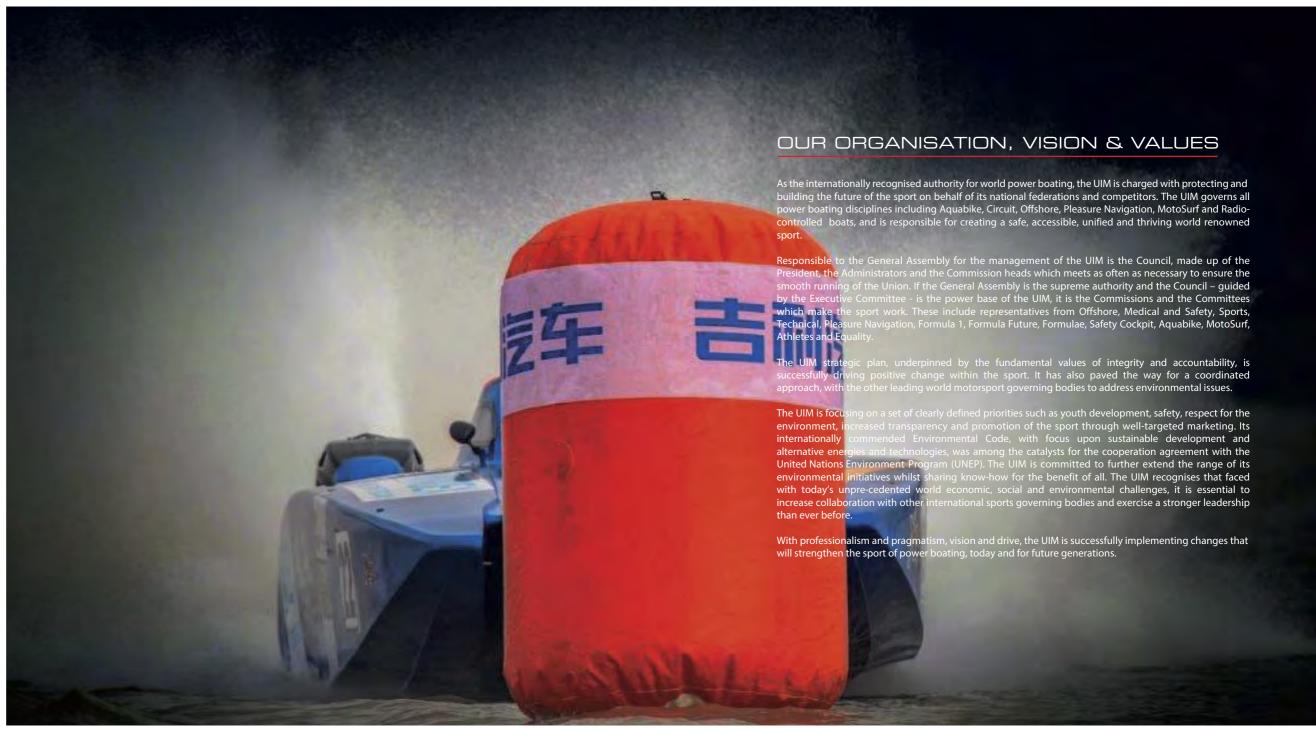














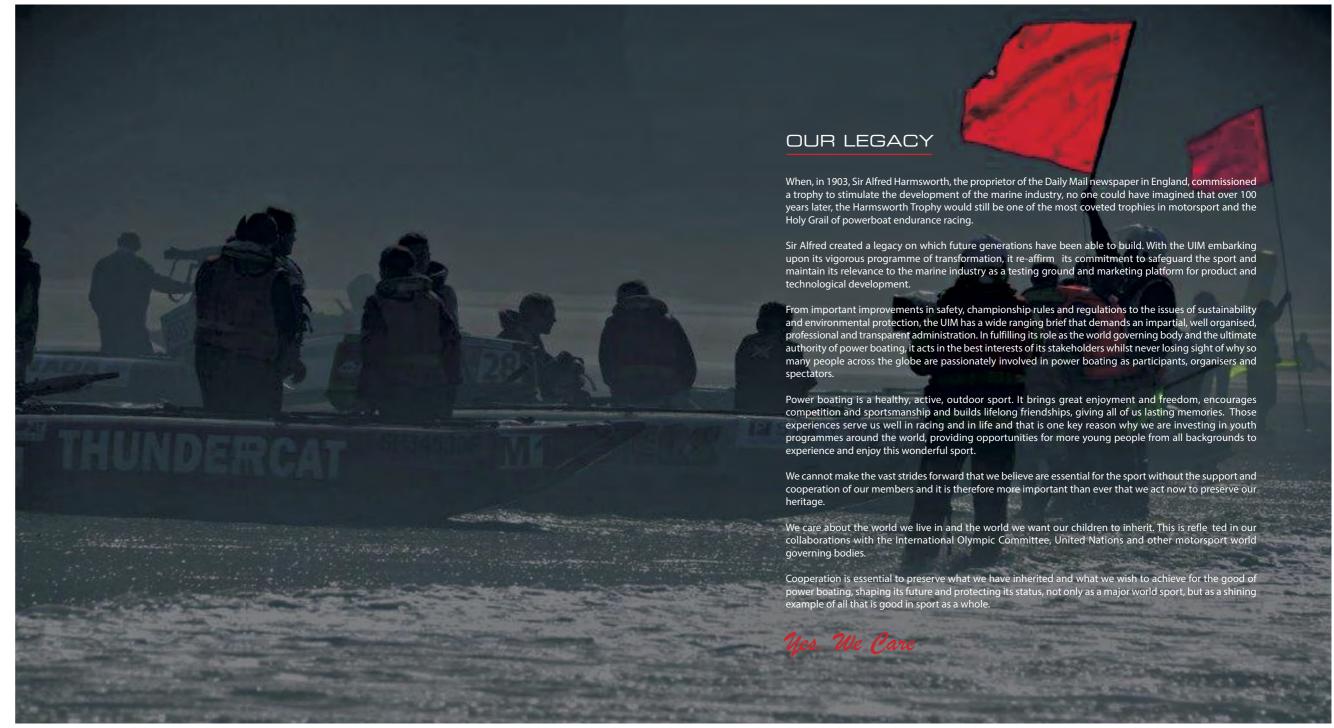














Organisation recognised by the

The UIM is recognised as the sole competent authority in Powerboating including Aquabike/ Jet Ski by the International Olympic Committee



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