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**Royal Thames Yacht Club Honors Island Pilot DSe 12m Hybrid
With Ocean-Going Hybrid Mansura Award**

Miami, FL—On May 4th, 2009, Reuben Trane proudly accepted the Ocean-Going Hybrid Mansura Award from Rod Carr, OBE and CEO of London's Royal Thames Yacht Club. Mansura Awards are given in five categories: Ocean-Going Hybrid; Inland Waterways Hybrid; All-Electric Craft Employing More Than One Source of Power; Hydrogen-Cell Craft; and, Prototypes and Trial Craft. This is the first year that the Ocean-Going Hybrid award has been given and the second year of presenting the Mansura Trophy to a selected company or builder seeking solutions to environmental challenges.

Island Pilot President, Reuben Trane, traveled to London to receive the Ocean-Going Hybrid award. The goal of the trustees of the Royal Thames Yacht Club in conducting this international competition is to encourage and recognize trail blazing designs aiming to help in the “need to eliminate global warming and reduce noise and atmospheric pollution, encouraging ongoing efforts to improve the breed and the range of hybrid motorboats, be they backed up by sail, biofuel, solar, fuel-cell, or some other new technology.”

In 1912 Jack Delmar-Morgan, an early pioneer in electrical engineering and the automotive retail business, created a unique motoryacht that he called *Mansura*. His yacht was designed to run selectively under petrol, electric, or sail power alone or under any combination of these sources. The petrol engine could be started electrically and the yacht was equipped with electric lighting, cooking, and water heating systems. The hybrid power train delivered 9 knots under petrol power, between 5 and 8 knots under electric power, and 11 knots under both. His yacht's performance was impressive as was the silent running and ease of her operation and maneuverability.

In presenting this award to Island Pilot, the judges commented that the DSe “is similar in concept to that of the original Hybrid yacht, *Mansura*.” Judging is based on a number of specific requirements and considerations are also given to ease and economy of manufacture, practicality of use for stated applications, and market potential. The judges found the DSe hybrid to be “an interesting and innovative design and already in production,” an appealing detail.

Although the DSe Hybrid was awarded the Ocean-Going Hybrid award, Trane describes the boat as a “coast-wise” cruiser, not a voyager. The DSe Hybrid is perfect for short passages to the Bahamas and the Caribbean, not as an ocean-crosser, but the judges were able to assign the category they felt most appropriate. Trane believes being awarded the Ocean-Going Hybrid award is more a recognition of the boat's advanced technology and his company's response to environmental challenges than it is about crossing oceans. The Ocean-Going Hybrid Mansura Award is in addition to the *Motorboating* Best of the Year award and the NMMA Innovation Environmental Award the boat was honored with previously this year.

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