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For Immediate Release:

Karma Yacht Sales, LLC announced their new line of semi-custom sailing yachts for discerning Lake Michigan sailors at their 4th annual open house held on January 14, 2005. A full house of 100 Lake Michigan sailors were on hand to preview the 2006 Beneteau line and learn of the new Wauquiez models which are slated to arrive in Chicago this spring.

Wauquiez (pronounced *vó-kee-ay*) has been building blue water sailing yachts since 1965. A member of Groupe Beneteau (the largest boat builder in the world), Wauquiez has established a strong international following based on four basic principles: *seaworthiness, performance, styling* and *construction*. A benchmark for sailing enthusiasts worldwide- these yachts are unique and the coveted crown of boat owners around the globe. The two primary series in the Wauquiez line are the *Centurion* and the *Pilot Salon* yachts. The *Centurion* series combine classic and graceful design with performance, while the *Pilot Salon* series represents a new generation of aft-cockpit, spacious living quarters-style sailing vessels that refuse to compromise the overall exterior beauty and lines. The first Wauquiez yacht is slated to arrive in Chicago this spring, a *Pilot Salon 41*.

After successfully representing Beneteau sailboats in Lake Michigan for over two decades, Karma Yacht Sales, LLC made the decision to provide a unique boat that Beneteau owners and sailing enthusiasts alike can grow into. The Wauquiez brand represents this unique offering that Lake Michigan sailors will find to be exceptionally beyond the competition. Karma Yacht Sales, LLC will represent Wauquiez yachts on Lake Michigan and out to the Western shore of Lake Huron.

Karma Yacht Sales (previously Darfin Yachts) has been representing Beneteau as the Lake Michigan dealer for nearly 25 years. They have grown to be one of the largest Beneteau dealers in the United States. Their primary commitment is to providing outstanding overall service that exceeds the customer's expectations. They were recently awarded the 2005 Beneteau's Presidents Award for Superior Customer Service and Superior Sales (also having received this award in 2004).

Groupe Beneteau-(parent company for Beneteau USA and Wauquiez) is the largest boat builder in the world, with over 4,000 sailing vessels manufactured worldwide across their many operating companies. Group Beneteau posted sales worldwide of 799M€ (~\$1B US dollars) in 2005. Their marine division is a strong contributor to the annual results with a majority of sales coming from production yachts, custom sailing yachts and their power yachts.

Information on Wauquiez Yachts can be found on the web at www.wauquiez.com



Your Lake Michigan Dealer specializing in Beneteau & Wauquiez

