

Van der Valk Shipyard appoints Evan Kortmann as CEO

Van der Valk Shipyard has appointed Evan Kortmann as Chief Executive Officer, succeeding Enrico Theuns, who has led the company since 2023 through a period of organisational development, growth and ownership transition.

Originally appointed to guide the shipyard through a planned three-year transition following the retirement of founder Wim van der Valk, Theuns has successfully completed the assignment for which he joined the company. During his tenure, Van der Valk Shipyard further strengthened its position in the international superyacht market, expanded into the 30-metre-plus segment and delivered a series of notable yachts, including LALABE, Jangada and Shine. He also oversaw the ownership transition following Wim van der Valk's retirement in April 2024 and helped prepare the company for its next phase of development.

The shareholders of Van der Valk Shipyard commented:

“Enrico joined the company with a clear mission, and we are grateful for the leadership, dedication and professionalism he has demonstrated over the past three years. During his tenure, the company continued to develop, strengthened its market position and prepared for its next phase. We sincerely thank Enrico for his valuable contribution and wish him every success in this next chapter of his life.”

Reflecting on his time at the shipyard, Theuns said:

“Leading Van der Valk Shipyard over the past three years has been a rewarding experience. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and grateful to our employees, clients, co-makers and partners for their commitment and support throughout this period. The company is well positioned for the future, and I am confident that Evan and the entire team will continue building on the strong foundation that has been established.”

After an intensive and enjoyable three-year journey, I now look forward to spending more time on two of my greatest passions: cycling and travelling with my wife. I leave Van der Valk Shipyard with many positive memories and wish everyone connected to the company continued success.”

Kortmann joins the management team alongside Technical Director Bram Kooltjes and Commercial Director Yoeri Bijker. Theuns will remain involved during the coming months to ensure a smooth transition and support the handover of his responsibilities.

Commenting on his appointment, Kortmann said:

“Van der Valk Shipyard has built a strong international reputation for delivering high-quality custom yachts. Our focus on fully custom yachts between 200 and 500 GT allows owners to create a yacht that reflects their individual requirements, while benefiting from the experience and craftsmanship of our team.

Every project begins with the owner’s vision. Together with our talented craftsmen, trusted co-makers and dedicated management team, we will continue to build exceptional yachts while honouring the legacy established by Wim van der Valk. I look forward to working with our clients, colleagues and partners as we continue developing the company and delivering yachts that meet the highest standards of quality and craftsmanship.”

About Van der Valk Shipyard

Founded in 1967, Van der Valk Shipyard is an independent Dutch builder of premium fully custom and semi-custom motor yachts. Known for its craftsmanship, engineering expertise and personalised approach, the shipyard specialises in yachts from 25 to 45 metres. Based in Waalwijk, the Netherlands, Van der Valk Shipyard builds and delivers custom yachts for clients around the world, combining Dutch craftsmanship with modern construction techniques.