



BENETEAU

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PRESS RELEASE

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THE NEW BENETEAU FIRST 35 WINS YACHT OF THE YEAR AWARD

MARION, SC, OCTOBER 19, 2009: Beneteau USA is pleased to report that the new Beneteau First 35 has won the “Yacht of the Year” award from *Voile Magazine*. A panel of *Voile Magazine* journalists, a group of specialists in sailing, and a selection of *Voile Magazine* readers noted that the main reason the First 35 won the award was the fact that the boat achieved its primary design brief of having the superior blend of a dual purpose program offering true cruising capability while also providing exciting racing performance. This honor is published in the attached French article from the November 2009 issue of *Voile*.

The article cited several important characteristics of this new model, including the following:

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- High precision and control of the helm
- A yacht that is easy to sail with a manageable sail plan
- A yacht with a strong personality
- A pleasing and flattering modern profile
- A comfortable and inviting interior layout

The Beneteau First 35 is to be imported by Beneteau USA for the American market and is now available through select authorized Beneteau dealerships.

Beneteau USA, the American division of the world's largest sailboat manufacturer, builds hundreds of 31-49 foot production sailboats in Marion, SC and imports sailing and power yachts up to 58 feet in length from its parent company in France.

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