



Long admired for its work on other luxury brands, MEC Yachts has taken the big step of building a range of power catamarans from 15 to 22 metres under its own name at Coomera

MEC in luxury launch

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IF you spotted this 19-metre power catamaran cruising the Gold Coast's waterways there is no doubt it would be worth a second glance.

But even a searching gaze by the most avid boatie may not be enough to guess the vessel's make and model.

Many have admired the work of MEC Yachts but few have seen what

the company has to offer on boats branded with their own logo.

Managing director Murray Owen said the company had been involved behind the scenes since 1992 in a range of luxury brands, including Azzura Yachts, Norman Wright and Warren Yachts.

MEC Yachts has also been well known for its superyacht refit work on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.

Ironically, it was when the mighty Warren Yachts wound down its

operations that Mr Owen decided to take a chance and build his own boats under the MEC Yachts brand.

"We had been talking about building boats for a long time," he said.

"I felt like there was a market for them.

"But when Warren Yachts finished up, it hit us pretty hard financially and I thought there goes another boat builder that we had no control over. "So that was the push that we needed."

So far this year the company has built and sold a 12.5 metre and 19-metre power cat, and it has a 15-metre and 18-metre in production.

"We are also in negotiations over two 19 metres and a 22 metre," said Mr Owen.

He said the company had orders to take it through until September and if the other orders in the pipeline were secured, enough work until this time next year.

He said the company was focused on producing catamarans from 15 to 22 metres and its ability to do full custom design and build set apart from companies like Marit and Riviera.

"Our workforce includes engineers and a fabrication and fitting gang," he said.

"We have about 50 staff working for us and the ability to swap change them to the different areas of our business is an advantage."