

■ American Custom Yachts Inc.



input we can get from the mates, captains, etc., helps us match up the right boat to fit the owner's needs."

LaCombe says his customers usually have a pretty extensive knowledge of boatbuilding, so it makes his job a little easier. "You get to really know these people after seeing them around at the boat shows and tournaments. We never build the same boat twice, so we listen to our customers' ideas and incorporate them whenever possible. From the first time I meet a potential customer, sometimes a year goes by before we sit down and sign a contract. And it should take that long. The customer should

Since 1992, when Dominick LaCombe teamed up with the Chouest family to create American Custom Yachts Inc., the company has focused on building boats that can really scoot. The first ACY that *Marlin* reviewed back in 1994 topped out at 50 mph – incredibly fast by even today's standards. Today, the company is still going strong, building super-fast boats built to match the specific needs of each customer.

"It's extremely important to get to know your customers and find out exactly how they plan on using their boats," LaCombe says. "It's good to know how they are going to be traveling and what kind of accommodations will be needed for crew and guests. Some customers might come in here and say that they want a 60-footer that they can travel the world in. I might have to tell them that if they made the boat a bit bigger, that they would have

better range, more overall efficiency and room to carry spare parts. With our extensive fishing experience, we can give an owner a list of pros and cons concerning all aspects of the boat, and between us, we can usually come up with the best scenario that matches how they want to use it," LaCombe says. "Every bit of

check out everybody and look at all the options out there. I prefer a well-educated customer."

American Custom Yachts

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American Custom Yachts builds super fast sport-fishers using high-tech materials that look as good as they run.

