

Viking announces the launch of the

RIVIERA BEACH MARITIME ACADEMY



With its spectacular year-round boating climate it is no surprise that Florida supports a \$14.1 billion marine industry. From mega-yacht construction in huge boatyards to bait shops along the Intracoastal Waterway, the Florida marine industry is a growing force, which expands every month. But without proper training in the marine field, jobs will be difficult to fill with qualified help.

To help provide a comprehensive education in both academics and marine skills, the Viking Yacht Company and the Marine Industry Education Foundation, created through a cooperative effort of the Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County and the County Board of Commissioners, have announced the formation of the Riviera Beach Maritime Academy in Riviera Beach, Florida, close by the Viking Yacht Service Center.

The Riviera Beach Maritime Academy will prepare students in high school grades 9-12 with a rigorous academic program designed to balance their educational needs for obtaining a diploma in preparation of attending college if desired, or specialized training leading to a career in the marine industry. Internships at area yachting centers, boat yards and dealerships will be an integral part of the program, so students will have the benefit of exposing themselves to the full gamut of marine-related disciplines that will lead to good paying jobs with ample room for advancement and personal satisfaction.

With the bright forecast of continued growth in marine related activities, career opportunities abound for skilled technicians as more jobs become available and older workers retire. The Riviera Beach Maritime Academy is open to all students who live in Palm Beach County and the first classes begin in September.

