

SUPERYACHT DESIGN

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Q6



LUMEN-ESSENCE

Project Lumen is a 90-metre concept proposal for Oceanco by Adriel Rollins, who here explains the rationale behind its evocative name.

Project Lumen is so called after the act of producing light. Within the heart of Lumen is an impressive glass and metal atrium which will be controlled by state of the art lighting and be visible through the amidships superstructure and the sundeck skylights. The exterior lighting on this vessel will be taken to a new level. Against the blackness of night, this yacht will have the ability to glow with the charm of a shore-side villa.

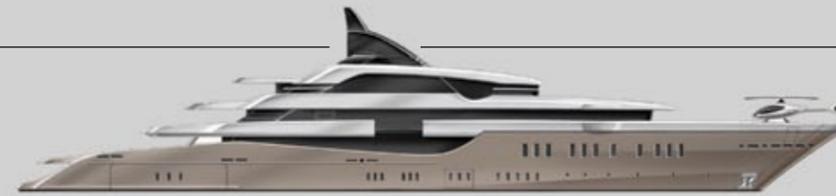
One characteristic of Lumen will be the symbiotic relationship between the atrium feature and the exterior styling. I have noticed a few top designers showing atriums in their exterior styling graphics. I understand the logic here: the atriums are expressed in the exterior design and prompt the viewer to realise that something substantial is taking place behind the large vertical

glazing details on these yachts. The result is stunning in its own right, but does compromise the long, graceful lines of a superyacht. The sheer, the drop shadows, superstructure overhangs and the molded deck coaming, are all interrupted to satisfy the vertical exterior elements that support the 'atrium-expression.'

I wonder if any supercar owners are disappointed in how small the back windows are in their mid-engine thoroughbreds? But I suppose if you want good visibility, then you buy a Range Rover. However, some of these new atrium-centric yacht exteriors look as if a Range Rover's windows and roof lines have been fitted to the body of a Lamborghini Murciélago. In the battle for more natural light accessing the interior, I believe some designers may have nudged too close to missing the point of sculpting. Project Lumen will prove that the atrium can be filled with spectacular natural light, without interrupting the styling that is fore and aft of large atriums on modern superyachts. Aboard Lumen the atrium is as spectacular and as original as possible, but the exterior lines do not give away this feature as her long, graceful lines are not interrupted. For me, the result is a one-of-a-kind design that will remain timeless.

These graceful lines contain the sculpted forms that draw your eye to the opposing surfaces, while undulating, conical forms create outcrops and promontories along the profile. From the stern, the tapering forms invoke a forced perspective. The inspiration for the cantilevered outcrops was derived from the ancient aesthetic of the pagoda, with its tiered tower structure and multiple eaves. I wanted the exterior styling to work in tandem with the hull form, instead of appearing to be 'stacked' on top of the hull. The hard chine appearance of an Oceanco hull form is complimented by the 'pagoda' tiered outcrops.

The final note regarding this dominant element is found at the aft end of the outcrops. The line continues downward and aft, terminating at the swim platform just above the waterline. The result is that the foredeck sheer gradually falls all the way to the stern as one continuous line. These elements are redirected and juxtaposed throughout the rest of the profile and topsides. In this abstract way, Lumen demonstrates the power of light as perceived by the human eye.



HOT YACHT

The PA168 is a new 86-metre superyacht concept based on the proven Y700 Oceanco platform and designed by the Milan-based Hot Lab studio. Antonio Romano of Hot Lab talks us through the concept's principle design features.

Despite the yacht's generous dimensions, her lines have been designed to convey a visual sense of lightness. Fundamental in this regard is the layout of the various decks, which provide abundant open spaces aft that rapidly converge towards the antenna mast in the centre. Forward of this point, the decks are developed more horizontally with a subtle yet dynamic downward curve to the open foredeck. This spacious area, which functions as an extendible platform for larger helicopters, emphasises and balances the graceful lines of the superstructure. The overall sense of lightness is also

highlighted by the way the individual deck levels are clearly defined by the darkened glazing that serves to lengthen rather than heighten the profile. Companionways, windows and technical areas have been developed to accentuate this effect.

The bulwarks amidships and aft are delicately arched to counterbalance the linear volumes of the superstructure and forward section. A beach area has been developed around a swimming pool on the main deck with a cascade waterfall that spills over the end wall. The bulkhead that constitutes this wall is covered with teak panelling that flows into symmetrical staircases leading down to the swim platform. This lower deck is surmounted by an unusual overhead 'spoiler', which provides partial shade and still allows abundant light to filter through.

The forward section of the yacht presents a classic bow profile with a flush deck for the helipad, which can be extended with side 'leaves' to meet new regulations relating to touch-and-go

operations. This forward deck is level with the wheelhouse, which is provided with wing stations contained in blisters in the bulwarks for optimum visibility fore and aft during manoeuvres. A defining architectural feature amidships is the large window on either side that extends the full height of the main and upper decks and abruptly intersects the bulwark coaming.

The upper deck and owner's deck are linked externally by bold arches that add an imposing graphic effect, while also tricking the eye into believing that two deck levels are in fact one and providing the 200sqm owner's apartment with ample natural light. A forward terrace leading off the owner's deck can serve as an open-air gym. The area forward of the antenna mast houses another area reserved exclusively for the owner's use. Painted black to minimise its visual impact, the accompanying 320sqm of private sundeck features a Jacuzzi, sun loungers and two large skylights in the deckhead that illuminate the owner's accommodation below.

