



The large displays on the fuel dock at Del Rey Landing rotate to accommodate fueling from any angle.

The overall size of the floats was extraordinary. Several of the custom-designed 65-foot dock modules were more than 40,000 pounds. Most marinas need only one level of utility raceways inside the docks, but Del Rey Landing installed so many utility services that it required three raceways.

The raceways deliver megayacht power, fuel, oil, fire suppression, potable water, compressed air and sewer lines from the pumpout stations. “[Schem’s] project required more utility coordination than I’ve ever seen before,” said Noegel of Bellingham, which designed, built and installed the utility systems, too. “If a conduit doesn’t fit in a raceway, the owner doesn’t have to figure out who to call to fix it. It’s our responsibility from start to finish,” added Noegel.

Fitting the 80-foot ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) ramp and other gangways into the marina plan was also a challenge. Because a smaller area between the docks and the land creates more space for slips, fuel docks and transient moorage, Bellingham Marine extended the gangway’s upper level over the water and set the landside end of the ramp on pilings. Marina del Rey also requires a 10-foot minimum

At a glance:

Del Rey Landing amenities

- eight 60-foot slips
- visitor dock for megayachts up to 300 feet
- 480V, 200A three-phase power
- full concierge service, including catering
- high speed fuel service
- oil extraction and refilling system
- floating ship’s store and deli
- live bait and scuba diving tank services
- pumpout
- Wi-Fi Internet

distance between the docks and the seawall, which was maintained with this design.

“The design resulted in much better use of the real estate in the marina,” said Schem. The extensions for the gangways also make the marina more visitor-friendly. These open-to-the-public observation platforms at the tops of the gangways are very popular with visitors.

The fuel dock

Bellingham Marine subcontracted the engineering of the fuel system to Western Pump of San Diego. The project used the existing belowground fuel storage tanks and replaced everything from the top of the tanks onward. The fueling system’s fifteen hose locations include a high-flow diesel filling post that can deliver 60 gallons per minute, adding convenience for visiting megayachts, commercial vessels and sportfishing charter boats. Large displays on the pumps rotate for easy viewing while fueling anywhere on the dock.

“The system was designed according to RP1000 standards from the Petroleum Equipment Institute,” said Ryan Rethmeier, vice president of Western Pump and one of the co-authors of RP1000.

In order to maximize the safety of the fuel system and avoid fuel spills, double-wall flexible fuel piping is used over water. Containment basins, or sumps made of fiberglass reinforced plastic, were placed under the hose segment connections to catch any possible leaks. A level sensor within the sump sets off audible and visible alarms and shuts down the system if a leak is detected.

Changing oil in the tight confines of a boat engine can be difficult and can lead to oil spills. To help boaters, Del Rey Landing provides a custom-built oil extraction system for changing oil in marine engines by means of an oil extraction and refilling system. Specially built cabinets house the peristaltic pumps that extract and insert oil into a vessel’s engine while it’s moored at the fuel dock.

Into the future

The facility is attracting the attention of the megayacht community around the world. “We are the yachting gateway to Beverly Hills, Hollywood and all of the Los Angeles area,” said Schem, “and we’re just minutes from Los Angeles airport.”

The refurbished Del Rey Landing opened for business in the spring of 2010. The renaissance at Del Rey Landing has benefitted Marina del Rey and Southern California. “We’ve created a beautiful place on the water that serves boaters and the general public,” said Schem. “People enjoy walking through the marina, having coffee at the store and watching the boating activities. It’s been a win for everybody.” Marina del Rey served the area well for nearly 50 years. With Del Rey Landing, it will delight boaters and the public for the next 50 years. ⚓

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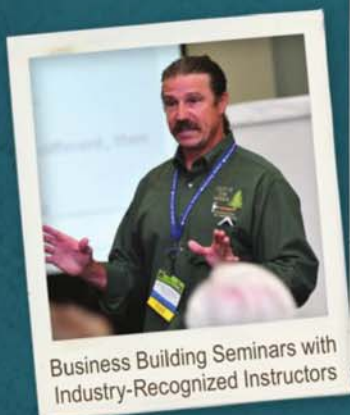


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