Light for Palaces of the Seas
Maritime Programme
Preciosa has been practising the art of crystal cultivation since 1724. Three centuries of refining knowledge and craftsmanship have led to lighting pieces of masterly perfection. Based on original Bohemian traditions, contemporary voices and modern technology, Preciosa illuminates spaces with majestic sparkle, all over the world.

As well collections of classical heritage chandeliers and innovative interpretations, Preciosa also manages bespoke projects, creating completely unique crystal installations for palaces, residences, and super yachts alike. Preciosa’s knowledge, accumulated over centuries, its understanding of today’s needs, and its anticipation of the future are present in every detail.

Preciosa is not only a world leading glass manufacturer – skilled production is one part of a complete in-house service; from unique design concept to installation, everything is carefully developed under one roof to the very highest standards of craftsmanship and technical knowledge, with Preciosa’s added Bohemian majesty. Meeting the demands maritime lighting insists upon, and innovating for bespoke projects is what Preciosa excels at, bringing all parts of its rich expertise together.

Combining vast experience, heritage values, exquisite attention to detail and the desire to innovate, Preciosa works with clients to find the most perfect solution to their lighting needs, be they onshore or off.
Preciosa has the pleasure of lighting the most exquisite luxury yachts, including the current longest super yacht in the world. Collaborating with such esteemed yacht interior designers Winch Design, Sinot Exclusive Yacht Design, Espen Oeino, Reymond Langton and partners as Lurssen Werft, Benetti, Amels and many others, Preciosa brings lighting of the highest quality and upmost beauty to the finest vessels on the sea.

Combining its extensive expertise in hospitality and lighting, Preciosa understands the needs of cruise ships and yet always looks for new ways to innovate. Projects have included work with exemplary companies such Royal Caribbean, Norwegian Cruise Line, Regent Seven Seas Cruises, Disney Cruise Line and design studios such Tillberg Design of Sweden, H2 Yacht Design and SMC.

Preciosa appreciates the importance and value of good partnerships and is proud to work with, among others Meyer Werft, Fincantieri, Vedder, List AG, De Wave, MJM Group and TSI. Furthermore, Preciosa is a proud partner of the Monaco Yacht Show, also producing the Show’s Award trophy, as a mark of its expertise in the field of glassmaking.
Competences

Crystal knowledge that grants limitless possibilities

With a long and rich history of working on maritime lighting projects, PRECIOSA has fine-tuned the making of bespoke installations for even the most challenging maritime conditions, from initial concept to post-installation maintenance, the whole process is complete and entirely dependable.
Together with PRECIOSA’s design team, clients are able to see their most innovative and ambitious lighting aspirations realised, knowing that they have the best available designers, engineers and technology behind them.

The design team works with the R&D department to simulate sea conditions, testing temperature, vibration, humidity, salt and wind effects, amongst others, as well as finding the best methods of installation, hanging and fixing – one of the most challenging aspects of these projects. PRECIOSA has developed unique ‘Silent block’ technology to accommodate some of the largest chandelier installations and allow for further exciting innovation in onboard lighting design.
Because PRECIOSA's in-house service also includes production and installation, every element of a project is overseen and adjusted as necessary, with no time delay or loss in communication – the skilled teams work seamlessly together to exacting technical standards. Every piece must pass four-level testing before PRECIOSA carries out complete onboard installation, ongoing safety checks and maintenance.

In this way, PRECIOSA ensures its lighting excels from start to finish, its quality and style enduring for years of voyages to come.
The magic of designing with crystal
INTERVIEW WITH ANDREW WINCHE

Andrew Winch is one of the world's leading super yacht designers and regularly works with Preciosa to produce cutting-edge, bespoke lighting for the finest sea vessels.

Preciosa is immensely proud to work with Winch Design, and in this interview, Andrew describes the art of yacht design, the latest maritime trends and more.

What are your clients' wishes and demands?
They want their yachts to be, more than ever, 'like a home, a floating island', a space that they would feel comfortable spending months at a time on, or even living on permanently, as one of our clients is currently doing. We are seeing higher ceilings, bigger spaces, the feeling of more air, to make rooms that don't just look beautifully proportioned, but feel relaxed and sophisticated signatures of art. Our client on Plvs Vltra wanted crystal chandeliers created by Preciosa which were visually delicate but with every single piece of crystal fixed so that the boat could sway or vibrate. 'Transoceanic capabilities', 'seaworthiness', and 'long range' are phrases we're seeing time and again. Ocean explorers are becoming more and more popular: strong, sturdy vessels that offer owners the luxury of complete freedom to roam wherever their hearts desire.
What is the magic of crystal in yacht design?
The interiors of yachts are designed to the highest standards both aesthetically and technically. When all the finishes within that environment are of the highest quality - high gloss veneers, rare special finishes, exquisite fabrics etc., it is important that the light fittings can reach the same standard. Using the best crystal chandeliers ensures that we create a beautiful central piece that is in keeping with the design, the purity of the crystal is magical, and the refraction within the crystal, sending light across the ceiling.

How did you discover crystal chandeliers and other crystal glass elements for your designs?
Crystal glass is a truly beautiful element of design. Preciosa incorporates the true magic of light in the design of chandeliers and modern glass features. The heritage of Czech glass is world renowned and we sought out the best quality materials that suited our clients’ requests.

How did your collaboration with Preciosa start and what was unique about the projects for you as a designer?
We have a long held relationship with the best Czech crystal suppliers, the heritage of Czech glass is world renowned and therefore creating a working relationship with the best, like Preciosa, is an essential part of what we do in yacht design. Our clients are often also familiar with the best quality materials, ensuring that we seek only the most prestigious suppliers. We work together to engineer and create a design that is unique and perfect for the room.

Could you describe typical cooperation with a yacht production company? We will work on the initial design concept, based on the interior scheme of the yacht. Then, in collaboration with Preciosa, we will work together to create a design that is unique and perfect for the room. The detailed engineering process follows, where-by every joint, every screw, every concealed fixing, is discussed and refined until we have a product that we know will exceed expectations. There are further processes of mock-ups, the development of finishes - metal gilding or plating, crystal selection and fine tuning, that we collaborate closely with the Preciosa team on throughout the whole build period. Finally overseeing the installation with the supplier’s team to ensure everything is completed perfectly.

In other interviews you’ve talked about wanting to be a sculptor - do you find yacht designing sculptural?
I initially trained as a sculptor at St Martins in London. I then moved on to train as a 3D designer at Kingston. In every case my mind works in a 3-dimensional way, looking at the exterior of a project and the interior arrangement as a 3-dimensional problem solving scenario. I see the exterior as a sculpture. It’s a matter of logistics, lifestyle, culture and marine realities which create a perfect yacht.

What do you see as future trends for yacht interiors?
There is a definite move from the ostentatious to the comfortable, where usability and functionality are intertwined with luxury: a blending of beautiful naval architecture with exceptional performance and cutting-edge technology, with a deeply green ethos. As yacht interiors continue to move away from the shiny, opulent finishes that were once so popular, the new trends will focus on calm, neutral, relaxing tones.

The interior of Plvs Vltra, which we delivered earlier this year, has an absence of long corridors, a feature common in past yachts, so as to create a more residential feel, and this focus on atmospheric spaces is something that we will certainly begin to see a lot more of.

New, cutting edge technology will feature heavily in future interiors. An example of which is dynamic or ‘smart glass’ windows, which are typically made from either thermotropic glass, where colour change is triggered by the heat from the sun, or electrochromic glass.

What do art, craft and craftsmanship mean for you in the 21st Century?
We have always worked with expert artisans, people who are the highest level craftsman in their field. Moving forward we continue looking to forge new techniques, new finishes and new remarkable designs for our clients so that we can achieve something truly individual for them. There must be an inherent beauty that encapsulates any design from the simplest object to the most elaborate chandelier - this is what we strive for.

How does, or would, your personal yacht look like?
My personal yacht would be a classical sailing yacht with a sense of romance and it would be very private. She would sit in the blue waters of the Cote d’Azur with plentiful fish and non-polluted waters. We support Plastic Oceans and the Blue Marine Foundation and are working towards reducing the amount of plastic waste in the office. We want to whole-heartedly reduce the destruction of the ocean and reduce pollution.
Preciosa’s own R&D department works alongside the designers through every step of a project, simulating and testing under sea conditions, always improving and innovating to find the best solutions for realising the design concept and then installing the finished piece onboard.

‘Silent block’ technology was developed by Preciosa engineers as an installation solution to allow for some of the largest lighting fixtures to be accommodated onboard. This is now a Preciosa Maritime standard for all products, ensuring the same outstanding quality across all collections, projects and installations, but also allowing for further design innovation, creativity, and exploration of lighting possibilities as yet unthought of.

Preciosa excels at combining technical specifications with the beauty of crystal glass, resulting in tremble-free, perfectly silent, and stunning lighting installations. The technology used is subtle, to enhance the unique properties of the crystal, and never overbear it.

Each installation is handcrafted and customised to ensure the perfect marriage of technology and elegance.
Partnership
AN HONOUR TO COLLABORATE WITH MONACO YACHT SHOW

Preciosa is immensely proud to be a Partner of the Monaco Yacht Show, and to take part in this event dedicated to exquisite, unique design, engineering and service. Furthermore, Preciosa is delighted to be the designer and producer for the Show’s award trophies. Taking inspiration from the maritime world, Preciosa designers work with crystal glass to produce stunning award pieces. Themes have included the abstraction of water, in which the surface of crystal is made to mirror the surface of the ocean – how it refracts and distorts light, emitting thousands of sparkles, its transparency and how it moves in waves. The trophies, similar to Preciosa’s onboard light installations, are crafted to the upmost technical precision, whilst never losing their aura of the sea.
Preciosa’s crystal glass installations are chosen to adorn some of the world’s most breathtaking yachts and superyachts. The beauty and elegance of light refracted through crystal glass perfectly matches the sophistication of these vessels and their interiors, creating unique atmospheres of radiance and poise.
**Bespoke Bohemian Crystal**

Lighting tailored for every vessel

Preciosa specializes in bespoke design and production, it is able to create extraordinary installations, bringing to life new, undreamt of, designs, unique to each owner.

The special requirements that maritime lighting poses are overcome through innovative technological solutions, carried out alongside the design team, to ensure complete technical performance as well as stunning visual effects. Preciosa manages the whole process, from initial concept to installation, which means that the highest level of attention to detail is maintained throughout, resulting in perfect, handcrafted, crystal glass pieces that complement surrounding interior designs and bring the magical aura of Bohemian crystal onboard.
Preciosa has a wealth of experience in creating statement light installations on a grand scale. It understands how to inspire a sense of wonder and drama through lighting, whilst also overcoming the challenging conditions of sea vessels. As well as producing some of the largest crystal light pieces for such settings as ball rooms and dining rooms, Preciosa understands the need for continuity, so that even pieces designed for more intimate settings form part of a harmonious whole.
Seven Seas Explorer

The alchemy of Ambience

The Seven Seas Explorer® is one of the world’s most luxurious cruise ships – offering guests a truly magnificent voyage experience within interiors of deep elegance and comfort.

Preciosa designed and developed the breathtaking light installations onboard in collaboration with Tillberg Design of Sweden. Drawing on inspiration from the ocean, concepts were developed using aquamarine and warm gold colours, hand blown sparkling crystal droplets, frosted glass chips, and organic shapes echoing the forms of waves, with the desire to inspire the sense of observing light through water.

Each lighting piece was custom made with a specific ambience in mind for each space – bringing a sense of drama, intimacy, or elegance, depending on the intention of the room. Each glass piece is technically perfect and plays its part in creating the overall splendor of the ship’s interiors.
PRECIOSA
FINE CRYSTAL LIGHTING

PRECIOSA Lighting is part of the PRECIOSA Group, one of the world’s leading companies in the field of high-precision cut crystal. The roots of the company go back to the year 1724, in the Czech Republic. Over the centuries PRECIOSA has perfected its knowledge of crystal so that today, it can offer unsurpassed design and technical qualities.

PRECIOSA’s classic chandelier lighting can be found all over the globe, at Versailles, in St. Petersburg, London, Dubai and New York, in both public and private palaces, residences, and yachts. Preciosa’s impressive product range also includes jewellery, gift items, crystal components for the jewellery and fashion industries and legendary crystal beads.

In 2017, a new chapter in PRECIOSA’s rich Bohemian Crystal history began in the heart of Prague. A new Flagship Store presents the brilliance and craftsmanship of its chandeliers for the next generation to experience. Contemporary innovation in design and technology now run alongside cherished traditions and iconic designs, securing PRECIOSA’s place amongst the best crystal makers for the next 300 years.
Bohemian Crystal

Crafted from Sand

Bohemian Crystal draws on natural local wealth together with the masterful craftsmanship and indomitable will of its people to embellish the world. The beginnings of the glassmaking tradition in Bohemia are closely tied to the production of beads.

It was in 1724 that Josef Palme finally obtained permission to produce chandeliers, enabling Bohemian Crystal to flourish, illuminating Europe with its mesmerizing brilliance.

Bohemian Crystal and chandeliers soon became highly sought-after possessions, along with famous pieces from England, France and Italy, and went on to adorn the residences of many noble elite and sovereign families.

Just like today, the chandeliers were born from the hands of Bohemian glass makers. True embellishments of the most fabled of royal courts, they became iconic masterpieces – unique jewels that now bear the names of their original owners – Empress Maria Theresa, Prince Eugene of Savoy and King Louis XIV.

The charm of a Bohemian chandelier does not only dwell in its timeless character. It also emanates from the uniqueness of every single piece of trimming, regardless of its era or architectonic style. In its present form, wedded elegantly with tradition, Bohemian chandeliers can be found in residences and palaces from Dubai to New York.
Crystal Valley
North Bohemia

The most beautiful crystal chandeliers that decorate large historical palaces, museums, opera houses and hotels around the world come from a small, mountainous region in north Bohemia: Crystal Valley.

Thanks to the region’s natural wealth and especially due to local craftsmanship and talent, the glassmaking traditions of Kamenický Šenov, home to Preciosa Lighting’s main production facility, have remained unspoiled for centuries. The oldest glassworks site found in Crystal Valley dates back to 1250. From the 17th Century crystal clear glass, called Bohemian Crystal, was melted down and shaped. This glass became a local speciality and became so popular around the world, that the Czech lands became the most important glass exporters in the world by the mid-18th Century.

At this time, the first workshops specialising in the production of crystal lights started to appear in Crystal Valley. The oldest professional glassmaking school in Europe has operated in Kamenický Šenov since 1856 and this, together with the local tradition of fathers passing glassmaking skills down to their sons, has had a major impact on the craft and technical skills of local master glassmakers.

To this day, local people continue to protect the glass making secrets of their ancestors as part of the local tradition. Today, Crystal Valley is still the most important region in the world for the production of crystal chandeliers.
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