

# GOLD COAST YACHTS

## Case Study

***powerblanket***<sup>®</sup>

patented technology

The Ultimate Custom Heating Solution

## An Epoxy Curing Problem

Any business that deals with epoxy curing knows how time-consuming and expensive the process can be. Without the proper equipment, it can be difficult to maintain the right temperatures. Powerblanket® can help. Our custom heating blankets can be tailored to any job, for any climate, as Gold Coast Yachts - a manufacturer of high-end, carbon-fiber watercrafts - discovered.



## From Costly to Cost Efficient

It was June 2014, and Gold Coast Yachts President, Richard A. Difede, was growing increasingly concerned about the cost and time it was taking for their post-curing of large carbon-fiber joints on the yachts the company produces. The epoxy joints needed to cure at 145° F for an extended period of time, and the procedure Gold Coast was using was time consuming and costly. In fact, it was outright profit hindering.

Gold Coast had to architect, build, and utilize large custom ovens for each section of yacht frame that needed high-temperature exposure. In other words, they were building a large shed around each and every frame. Workers used two-by-fours and sheetrock in order to create a sealed unit that could be pumped with heat. The process took a good deal of time and manpower, not to mention the extra costs for equipment.

Building the makeshift oven was only half the battle. Once the unit was completed, someone had to man the oven for the duration of the cure to regulate the temperature. They couldn't allow the temperature to fall below 145° F or climb too high above it, or the process would be compromised and take even longer to complete.



This all left something to be desired in the department of efficiency. Even while pumping the constructed oven with ample heat, they were still having trouble penetrating through all the layers of carbon fiber. If the right amount of heat didn't penetrate through all layers, the cure wouldn't set completely.

The continued and meticulous attention to the details of the process meant they had to babysit the cure, raising temperatures when needed and making sure they returned to normal before any damage could be done.

This long, costly, and inefficient process was beginning to eat into the company's valuable time. Instead of moving on to the next steps of an important project, crew members were left waiting for the first project's curing to complete, which inevitably translated into expensive downtime and lost opportunity. It's no wonder Richard was concerned with this type of operation.



## A Simple Solution to a Complex Problem

Richard started looking for a better approach to his company's curing needs and came across Powerblanket. When he read what our industrial heating blankets could do, he reached out to a representative to learn more.

“When Richard contacted us, it was obvious that he needed something far less expensive and time consuming than his present method,” the Powerblanket sales rep said. “I discussed with him the details of our epoxy-curing blankets, and he was excited to try them out. What started with a two-foot-by-two-foot test blanket quickly snowballed into many more orders.”

Richard and his team soon found that the Powerblanket curing solution worked exceptionally well and eliminated the need for the pre-built ovens they had spent so much time building.

Instead of using an oven to increase the heat of the ambient air around the project, all they had to do was apply the adequate number of Powerblanket curing blankets and then wait for the joints to cure. With a thermostatic controller on each blanket, they could dial in the proper temperature and not worry about watching to make sure it stayed there. And with the Powerblanket patented technology, the right amount of heat distributed evenly through the entire application - increasing the speed of the cure by leaps and bounds.



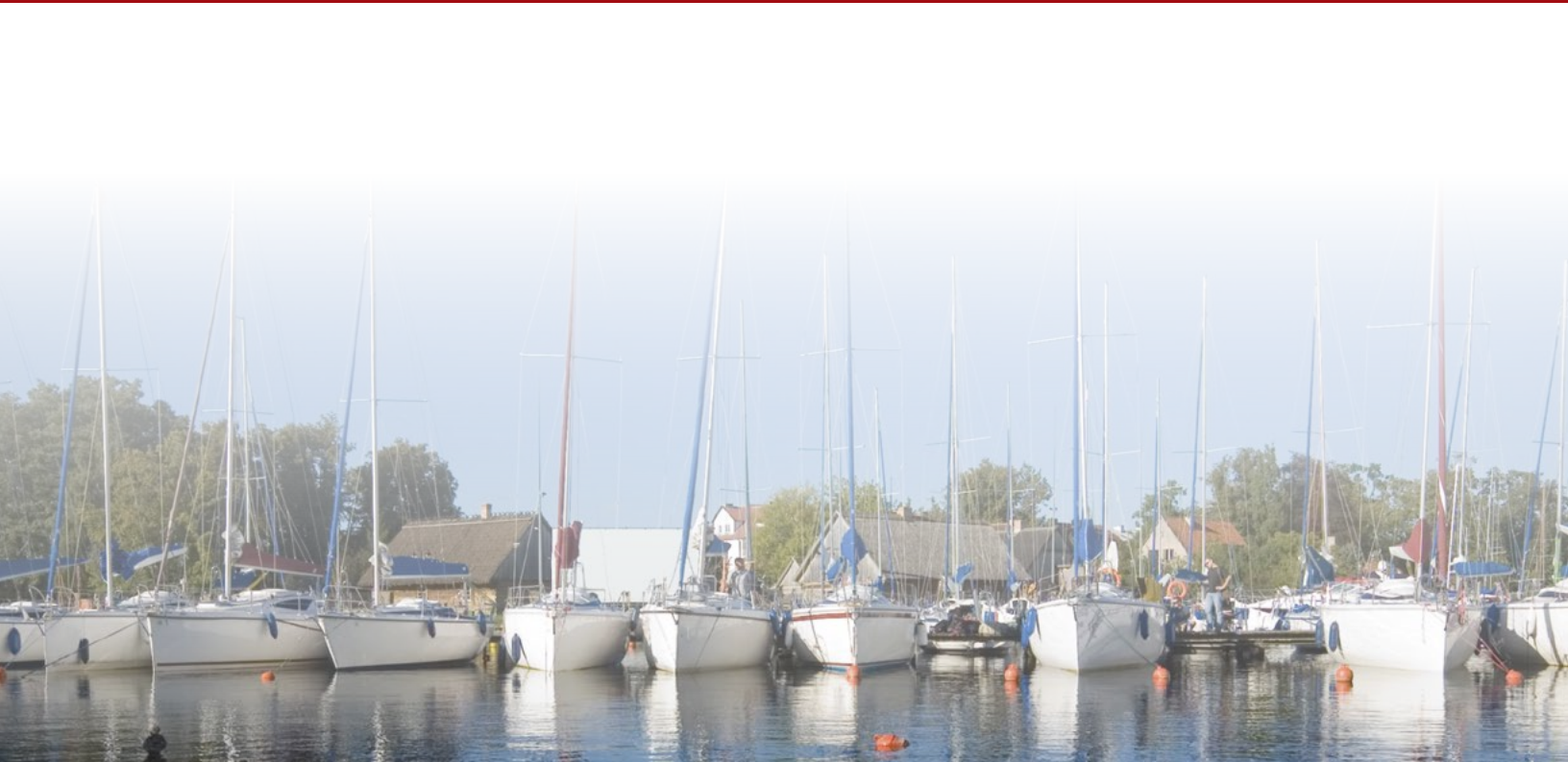
After trying out the small demo blanket, Rich and his team purchased many more, and in multiple sizes. It wasn't long before they decided to take it one step further. After learning about Powerblanket custom heating solutions and the ability to manufacture custom blankets for just about any application, Richard purchased several custom-sized blankets for current and future projects.

“Powerblanket® Extra Hot Curing Blankets have simplified the post-curing process for our composite parts. Quick and easy to use on a variety of different shaped parts, the Powerblanket heaters have significantly decreased our setup time and operating costs, saving several thousand dollars on our current carbon-fiber project. The Powerblanket team was responsive, and the blankets shipped quickly. I'm very glad we came across the amazing new technology.”

**Richard A. Difede**

*Gold Coast Yachts, Inc.*

President



## The Powerblanket Solution

Powerblanket® was able to provide a solution for Gold Coast that saved both money and time in order to increase productivity and yield. Our heating blankets come in both standard and custom sizes and we have three products lines to serve whatever heating job you have.

We've helped many businesses eliminate repair costs and downtime related to temperature issues in order to increase their bottom line, and we can do the same for you. Contact Powerblanket® today to get started!

**CONTACT US**

Our **Custom Heaters**  
are perfect for any industry

