

CHALLENGING THE CULTURAL STATUS QUO

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Categories: [Maritime](#), [Superyachts](#)

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Editorial



Welcome to the second edition of Superyacht FEEDBACK. Judging by your comments and reaction to the first edition, you share our passion for addressing safety issues and promoting a proactive learning culture amongst your crewmates.

And did you spot the safety issue apparent in the main photo on the front page? Well done if you spotted that only one of the crew members working 'at height' cleaning the superstructure was wearing a safety harness. We will cover working at height in a future issue, because in this edition we want to talk about challenging the cultural status quo – specifically, challenging the safety culture.

In a sector that focuses on meeting the needs and wants of its guests, where reputation is paramount and saying 'no' is difficult because of implicit 'authority gradients', how do we ensure that safety is not compromised?

This question appears in most of the reports in this edition, and the answer is to empower the team to constructively challenge – and more importantly, to be listened to – when safety is at risk. Whether it's challenging the master about speed of entry towards a crowded anchorage, or challenging your own assumptions about the safety of taking a 'short cut' to get the task done more quickly, developing a culture of 'constructive challenge' without fear of reprisal is not just essential – it's a life-saver.

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