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YACHT PARTNERSHIPS

Last year, Loren Simkowitz's yacht management company introduced a program targeted at boaters who'd rather not deal with the hassles of ownership: Fractional Ownership. Simkowitz's company, Monocle Management, has a dozen megayachts that it manages for 120 different owners.

Structure: About 10 individuals form a partnership to buy a yacht that Simkowitz manages for the group. Each of the 10 owners can use the yacht four weeks a year. Crew expenses and maintenenace costs are divided equally. An owner can choose to charter the yacht during the alloted time and pocket the charter fees.

The Goods: Typical yachts are 80 to 125 feet long. But luxury yachts such as Hargrave, Monte Fino or Westship are more popular, with three to four staterooms and a full-time crew devoted to the ship.

Cost: From \$3 million to \$15 million. Total operational fees run an estimated \$360,000 a year for an 80-to-100 foot yacht and about \$450,000 a year for a 125-footer.