

BOAT LIFE



Design heroes

Mario Pedol, designer of the world's biggest yacht, the 180 metre Azzam, on one of his favourite pieces of design, a wood and aluminium lounge chair made by Eames



ive years ago we bought Eames
aluminium chairs for our new office
in Milan and I added to the order
an Eames lounge chair (shown here with
ottoman) for my house. They were all
delivered to the office, and the lounge chair
is still there! I can't bring myself to take it
home – I love to see it when I'm working.

The chair is an absolute icon of industrial design and was created by Americans Charles and Ray Eames in 1956. I love it for its combination of innovation, technology and style, while

its timeless elegance means it fits proudly in any environment, from a traditional gentlemen's club to a contemporary Milan design office, and from a yacht club lounge to a chalet in the Dolomites. The three materials chosen by the Eameses – wood, leather and aluminium – evoke nature and modernity at the same time.

The chair is made with three separate shells (seat, backrest and headrest) of cold-moulded wood "filled" with comfortable leather cushions that are connected to the shells by an almost-

invisible zip. The shells are connected to the aluminium frame through flexible joints that enhance ergonomics and comfort, allowing the chair to adapt to the sitter. Behind its apparent simplicity lies a hidden depth of sophisticated design and a study of detail both in the production process and in the product itself.

The lounge chair perfectly embodies a motto that is framed and hangs on a wall in our office and that we always keep in mind in our design practice: "Simplicity is the essence of good design".