



To whom it may concern,

11<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Re. Robert Hickman – Captain S/Y Halcyon.**

I have known Robert Hickman since his days as a student at the RYA / MCA Training Establishment the U.K.Sailing Academy which I used to run. As CEO there I always got sight of the new intake of students and Robert did much to impress me during his time at the Academy. I know he has since been back to successfully complete his MCA Deck Officer Training which will stand him in good stead during the rest of his career at sea.

I have experienced Robert's skills as Captain aboard S/Y Halcyon both from the perspective of being a Corporate Client and also as a guest of Andrew Armour the Owner. The corporate bookings were for Corum ( the Swiss Watch Manufacturer ) both of which were a huge success largely due to Roberts talent for making people feel at ease on board and keeping the workings of the boat unobtrusive. During one of the charters he even had to cope with a random inspection from the MCA which he of course passed with flying colours – saying a great deal about the way he runs his ship. He coped with this in his usual unflappable manner without the guests even being aware that there was anything going on.

Having trained over 3,000 skippers in my time and sailed upon some of the most magnificent Superyachts in the world I vouch for Roberts skills as Captain. His care of the yacht is exceptional, his attention to detail is unrivaled and handling and command skills appear faultless. He also has a very quiet and assured way of dealing with the crew, the surreptitious use of walkie talkies ensuring that I have never heard him have to raise his voice in command. The crew work, and learn from him as their mentor and he deals with guests in a professional, friendly and courteous way.

In short I can say that Robert is one of the best Superyacht Captains I have had the pleasure of working with and he seems to have thrilled the owner and guests alike with the way that he has run the yacht. I know Andrew is very sad to see him go and I believe Halcyon will find it very hard to find a better replacement. He is 100% honest, hardworking, trustworthy, quietly confident and consummately professional – I am sure he will be of excellent service aboard your yacht.

I am happy to answer any other questions in confidence – you can contact me at my offices in Cowes at your discretion.

Yours sincerely,

David Green ( Director 3Greenlights.com )