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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMERITEX SHOWCASES SST BIMINI TOP AT IBEX 2016

BRADENTON, Fla. – Oct. 4, 2016 – Ameritex Fabric Systems, a member of the Taylor Made Group, will showcase their new SST Bimini Top — an Innovation Award nominee — at the 2016 International BoatBuilders’ Exhibition and Conference (IBEX).

“S.S.T. stands for self-supporting top,” said Don Zirkelbach, president of Ameritex Fabric Systems. “Bimini tops of the past were shaky, even when locked in the open position. They required multiple support stanchions and bothersome straps that needed adjustment, flapped in the wind, and got in the way. The design of the SST Top eliminates those straps.”

The reengineered design makes the top stable with only two support stanchion. The addition of threaded eye-ends locks the deck mounts down tight, reducing rattling to almost nothing, even when a boat is moving. The result is a sturdy bimini top with no obstructions aft or fore. Fisherman can fish without rods being impeded. Drivers have better visibility.

The patent-pending SST Bimini Top also improves ease of operation compared to traditional bimini designs. Stretchable material in the bow pocket allows the frame to pivot without tearing the fabric. There is no need to disconnect any part of the top. Push in the safety pins and plastic inner sleeves help the jaw slides move smoothly up and down the stanchions, deploying or storing the top in one simple step and a fraction of the time.

“Ameritex has reimagined the bimini top in a way that is remarkably useful to boaters,” said Mike Oathout, vice president, sales and marketing for Taylor Made Systems, Ameritex’s parent company. “The innovative new design makes it less obtrusive, more stable, and much easier to open and close quickly. Overall, the boating experience is greatly improved, with bimini

protection overhead in a matter of seconds, whenever the boater wants it, and less clutter in the boaters' way."

Zirkelbach added, "Boaters can even take the SST Top right off of their boat and use it as a cabana on the beach. It'll remain tight as a drum the whole time. Try that with your old bimini."

To see the latest in canvas systems and marine glazing, visit Booth 1005 at IBEX, Oct. 4-6 at the Tampa Convention Center in Tampa, FL.

About Ameritex Fabric Systems

A member of Taylor Made Group, LLC, Ameritex Fabric Systems (www.ameritexfabrics.com) is based in Bradenton, Fla. and is the fabric engineering and manufacturing arm for Taylor Made Systems. Ameritex is a leading supplier of highly engineered fabric solutions for OEM boat manufacturers and the automotive industry.

About Taylor Made Systems

A member of Taylor Made Group, LLC, Taylor Made Systems (www.taylormadesystems.com) is based in Gloversville, N.Y. Together with its partner, Trend Marine Products Limited, Taylor Made Systems is the world's largest manufacturer of marine glazing systems and the acknowledged leader in framed-glass windshield technology for powerboats. Other marine product lines include manual and power-actuated doors, roofs, window systems, skylights and hatches. The company also supplies glass products for a variety of agricultural, construction, mass transit and emergency vehicle applications.

About Taylor Made Group

Headquartered in Gloversville, N.Y., Taylor Made Group, LLC operates thirteen facilities in the United States, the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom — with additional licensed affiliates in Australia, New Zealand, and Poland. In business for over 100 years, the Group is one of the recreational marine industry's leading and most diversified suppliers — additionally providing products to numerous other industries, including agriculture, construction, mass transit, emergency, utility, and off-road vehicle builders, as well as the golf industry, automotive industry, and more. Employing over 1,000 associates, The Taylor Made Group distributes its products through a worldwide distribution network.

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