Italian builders certainly march to a different drummer as they interpret traditional North American designs. Absolute, builder of the Navetta 58, has translated the trawler yacht into a uniquely Italian vessel. The company has planned her official launch for the Cannes Boat Show this coming September.

Absolute's goal for the 58's design was to avoid developing a fast trawler from existing sportboat designs and to stay clear of mimicking the style of traditional displacement trawlers. "Displacement is not yet available," said Cos Constantinou, the builder's U.S. representative. "[We] expect top speeds to be in the 24- to 26-knot range, depending on load. Cruising speed will range between 18 and 21 knots." Constantinou expects the U.S. spec price to be $2 million.

The Navetta 58's styling sets her apart from traditional fast trawlers, and gives her a very strong character. Her plumb stem is shippy-looking and has the practical benefit of extending the usable space in the lower deck. The same concept applies to her vertical topsides. Character lines, portholes, and large windows break up the mass there. That high chine in the forward sections suppresses spray when the bow punches through big seas. It looks cool, too.

Volvo Penta's IPS drives have given the designers an uncommon amount of space belowdecks. The engine room is huge and the master suite, amidships over the longitudinal center of buoyancy, spans the yacht's entire beam. Its king-size berth is on the centerline, while a settee to starboard, and stowage cabinets along the port side, may tempt the owners to retire early and sleep late.

Absolute Yachts, 877-500-1686; www.absoluteyachts.com

LOA: 58'0"
BEAM: 16'5"
DRAFT: TBD
DISPL.: TBD
ENGINES: 2/435-HP VOLVO
PENTA IPS600S
FUEL: 635 GAL.
WATER: 158 GAL.
CRUISE SPEED: TBD
TOP SPEED: TBD
PRICE: UPON REQUEST