

Vincent Riou wins the Vendee Globe, steered by nke!

As of the 2nd of February Vincent RIOU with his Open 60 PRB holds the record for the unaided global circumnavigation starting from les Sables d'Olonne. There wasn't a lot of wind when he crossed the finish line, with all of his sails set he was still only sailing at 10 knots. Nearly a hundred motorboats, including nke's were waiting to escort him to the finish line and end the night with a great party to celebrate his victory.

For some years nke has been working with team MER AGITEE, managed by Michel DES-JOYEAUX, to improve and develop new products. Previously Vincent competed on the Figaro circuit and prepared PRB for Michel DES-JOYEAUX's victory in 2000, that's why he knows our products very well and chose **nke** for his Vendée Globe 2004. During his race the pilot steered more than 95% of the time! The MER AGITEE team demands the very highest standards for the Vendee, The Transat Jacques Vabre and the Rhum 'Pilots must demonstrate to us their efficiency to sail as fast as possible in total safety'.



nke also equipped BONDUELLE, TEMENOS, and VMI which finished second, fourth and fifth respectively.

nke increases its brand image abroad

-In England, Alex THOMSON has chosen nke to equip his open 60' HUGO BOSS, he will be flying the nke colors in 11 events globally.

-In Spain, the winner of the crewed "Del Rey", on a Dufour 34, has renewed his partnership with nke during the Barcelona boat show.

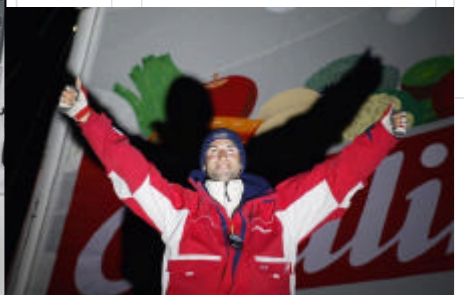
-The Spaniard Alex PELLA, third in the "Transat" has also renewed his partnership with nke for the next Mini and sails in the first Spanish Figaro 2, OPEN SEA SAILING.

-In Italy an X37 will defend nke's colours in the IMS championship.



Figaro

-Armel LE CLEAC'H getting the tiller of the trimaran FONCIA will not prevent him from taking part in the Figaro race as an nke partner.



-In the Adriatic, the Slovenian fleet welcomes three new nke partners, two Mini 6.50s and one A 40.

-nke is also present in Croatia, the First 47.7 competes under IRC.

nke on every stretch of water

Class 40'

Very rarely is a new class born but the new Class 40' is beginning to take shape. This off-shore class has the support of many skippers and architects. Before long we may see more Class 40s than 50s at the start line of the "Route du Rhum".



The French boat builder Structures is already over booked with orders!

This week, the POGO 40 should be ready for sea trials by nke's associate Michel MIRABEL, we won't forget to report on this new boat in the next news letter.

The JUMBO 40', (archi: ROLLAND), has already completed a transatlantic, this Class 40' equiped by nke is a direct take-off of the 60' open Class.

The nke's 31.7 is back!

As in 2004 nke will be present at the "Spi Ouest France" in the IRC 4 class.

It is reported that this year an unofficial 31.7 class will be set up to regroup the fleet of 31.7s into one-design.

Buy out of headway concept company by nke

Headway concept is a R&D office working for customers like Valéo, Canalplus, Ifremer and in sailing for Groupama, Géant, Sodébo and for few America's cup teams. This office has developed two efficient products, the echospeed (a Log with ultrasonics waves) and Protéus (a system of measurement of constraint with wire).

nke will propose in his catalogue, after an industrialization stage, the echospeed log which is a log with the best precision and a high linearity. This log is selected by Americas cup teams, ORMA's trimaran and Open 60' like PRB.

Atlantique TELEGRAMME Lorient

nke is the official partner with Banque Populaire for the 2005 event.


NEWS nke

Log/depth junction interface

The installation kit does not exist anymore.

You have to choose separately the different items.

- For one installation:
- 1 new Log/Depth junction interface.
 - 1 Bus cable (15 m.).
 - 1 new Depth sensor.
- choose between:-1 new Log/speedo Electromagnetic sensor.
- 1 new Log/speedo paddlewheel sensor.

 If you choose the new Log/speedo Electromagnetic sensor, don't forget the Thru Hull Fitting for the electromagnetic sensor.		
new Log/speedo Electromagnetic sensor	ref:90-60-002	new connector, no Thru Hull Fitting
Thru Hull Fitting for Electromagnetic sensor	ref:90-60-344	
new Log/speedo paddlewheel sensor	ref:90-60-457	new connector+Thru Hull Fitting
new Depth sensor	ref:90-60-456	new connector+Thru Hull Fitting
Old Log/speedo paddlewheel sensor	ref:90-60-001	old connector, no Thru Hull Fitting
Old Depth sensor	ref:90-60-003	old connector, no Thru Hull Fitting

Software Tactique SL 50

This sophisticated software facilitates the automatic acquisition of speed polar information, essential in determining target boat speeds and present performance. It is relevant to both amateur and professional teams.

The Software manages three stages of the race :

- The start
- The upwind leg
- The downwind leg

Every stage has its own presentation, the nke equipment displays this essential data on the graphic multifunction. After entering the course route information all of the crew has access to the time to the finish line, the time to the mark, the time to the layline...

This multifunction display is part of the topline range. Its high definition LCD screen offers excellent visibility and a wide viewing angle both day and night. It connects on to the Topline bus of your existing installation and shows all available data on the bus.

Solune, boat of the year, is already equipped with five SL 50s.

