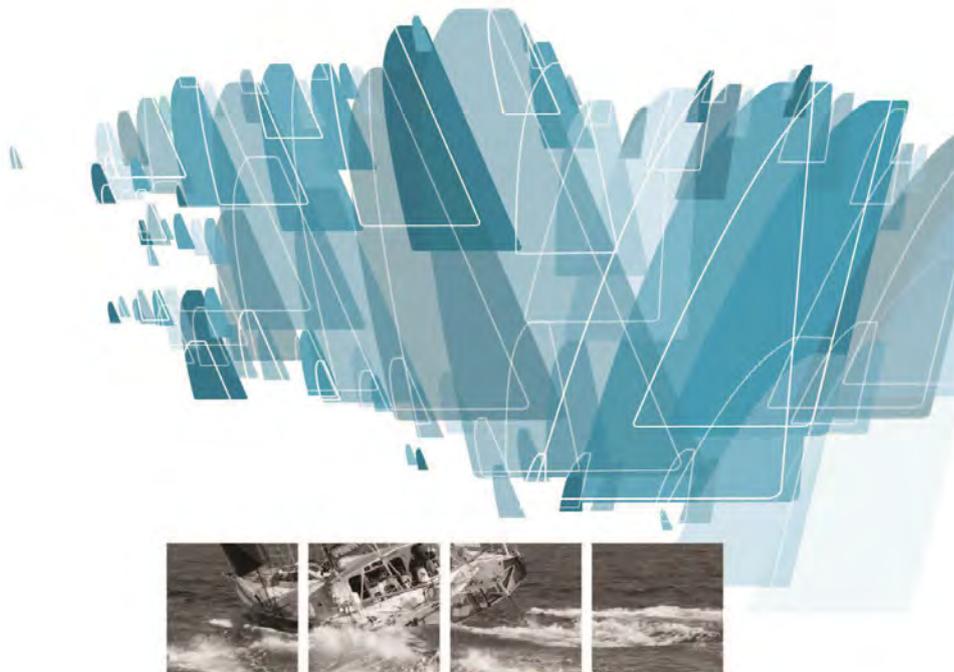


BRETAGNE[®]

SAILING VALLEY



PRESS KIT

Press Trip: 20 – 21 September 2018

Pays de Cornouaille >>> Golfe du Morbihan – Vannes >>> Lorient

BRETAGNE[®]
DÉVELOPPEMENT
INNOVATION

eurolarg[®]
INNOVATION

PRESS TRIP
BRETAGNE SAILING VALLEY
19-20-21 SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 19th September 2018

Journalists arrive at Quimper train station (variable arrival times, according to individual travel arrangements)

8pm: Dinner Chez Max – Quimper / Presentation of Bretagne Sailing Valley (Carole Bourlon, mission manager for the Eurolarge Innovation programme at Bretagne Développement Innovation)
10pm: Hôtel Mercure - Quimper

Thursday 20th September 2018

Pays de Cornouaille (Finistère) and Golfe du Morbihan – Vannes (Morbihan)

8.30am - 1.30pm: Pays de Cornouaille (Finistère)

8.10am: Leave from the hotel Mercure Quimper by coach: Quimper – Combrit

8.30am - 9.30am: Visit to the POGO STRUCTURES boatyard, Combrit

POGO STRUCTURES is a yard employing more than 60 employees mass producing offshore racing yachts, including the Mini 6,50 and Class40.

9.35 - 9.45am: by coach Combrit - Port-la-Forêt

9.50 - 10.15am: reception at PÔLE FINISTERE COURSE AU LARGE, Port-la-Forêt

Presentation of the national offshore racing skipper training centre (Figaro, Imoca, Ultim') and the Bretagne - Crédit Mutuel sector of excellence.

10.15 - 11.15am: meeting with MerConcept, the MACIF race team and holder of the round the world solo record (Trophée Saint-Exupéry, 12/2017)

11.20 - 12.20am: meeting with companies (sailing club, Port-la-Forêt):

- AIM 45: navigation data analysis for yacht performance and safety (structure, constraints);
- INO ROPE: innovative textile rigging company;
- MER AGITEE: innovative project for sail sensors

12.20 - 13.20pm: buffet lunch offered by Quimper Cornouaille Développement (sailing club)

1.30 - 2.55pm: transfer by coach: Port-la-Forêt (Finistère) – Tréfléan (Morbihan)

3pm - 9pm: Golfe du Morbihan – Vannes Agglomération (Morbihan)

3.00 - 4.00pm: visit to HEOL COMPOSITES, Tréfléan

Presentation of the manufacturing process of patented hollow carbon parts recognised for their lightweight efficiency. High-performance for offshore racing will be presented and applications in the sectors of motor racing, industry and aeronautics.

4.00 - 4.20pm: Transfer Tréfléan/Parc du Golfe Vannes

Promotion of the economic importance of sailing, key indicators, leading companies, innovations, etc.

4.20 - 5.20pm: Visit to NORTH SAILS

NORTH SAILS, an American leading sailmaker, makes sails for racing and cruising yachts. The worldwide research and development centre is based in Vannes.

5.30 - 7pm: Visit to MULTIPLAST and meeting with VPLP DESIGN

MULTIPLAST is a leading company in the construction of racing yachts and in the use of high-performance composite materials. This renowned know-how has enabled the company to work with world-famous naval architects, such as VPLP Design.

VPLP Design is a team of naval designers and architects designing sail and motor boats. Presentation of the trades and tools developed for projects and presentation of 2 current projects including a new IMOCA and an ULTIM'

7.30 - 9pm: Dinner in Vannes offered by Golfe du Morbihan - Vannes Agglomération

9.15 - 10pm: transfer by coach Vannes - Hôtel Les Rives du Ter, Larmor-Plage

Friday 21st September 2018 LORIENT (Morbihan)

8.30am - 1.30pm: Lorient (Morbihan)

8.20am: Leave the hotel Les Rives du Ter, Larmor-Plages

8.30 - 8.50am: guided tour of Lorient La Base by coach: Infrastructures, companies, drydock, race teams.

9.00 - 9.45am: Visit to LORIMA

LORIMA carbon masts are made to measure in Lorient in an unusual building in the old submarine base.

10.00 - 10.45am: KEROMAN TECHNOLOGIES

Visit to the IMOCA and Ultim' trimaran production site

11:00 - 11:45am: Visit to AVEL Robotics (formerly ABSOLUTE COMPOSITE)

Visit to the automated layup robot for mass producing high-performance carbon parts. Technology from the aeronautical industry.

12:00 - 1:00pm: meetings with actors in competitive sailing (ABSOLUTE DREAMER room)

- NKE MARINE ELECTRONICS: onboard electronics, navigational instruments
- GSEA DESIGN: structural calculation software for reliable and innovative composite parts (yachting, industry).
- NAUTIX: Leading French manufacture of marine paints

1:00 - 2.00pm: Lunch offered by Lorient Agglomération and its technopole (ABSOLUTE DREAMER room)

2:00 - 3.00pm: Défi Azimut - Race Briefing (Cité de la Voile Eric Tabarly)

As every September since 2011, Azimut is organising the Défi Azimut. A race that is run at the same time as the Atlantique Le Télégramme and that brings the best international IMOCA skippers to Lorient before the year's biggest race (Barcelona World Race, transat Jacques Vabre, Route du Rhum or the Vendée Globe).

Optional (proposed by the organisers of the Défi Azimut):

3.30pm: Leave from the port

4.30pm: Start of the race

Transfer to Lorient train station or airport.

Depart from Lorient: variable departure times according to individual travel arrangements

BRETAGNE SAILING VALLEY®

The Brand for Competitive Sailing in Brittany

Brittany is the cradle of competitive sailing for a considerable number of sailors (Eric Tabarly, Armel Le Cléac'h, Yann Eliès, Thomas Coville, Jean Le Cam, Franck Cammas, Michel Desjoyeaux, François Gabart). It is indeed a region of high standards and high achievers.

Through the big names associated with the formula ones of the seas, competitive sailing conveys a vivid dream and feeds the imagination of more amateur spectators.

In Brittany, a dense and complementary sector has grown up working in harmony; yacht builders and designers, rigging and appendage manufacturers, safety equipment, onboard electronics, fittings, hull coatings, etc.

Year after year, the aspirations of public and private stakeholders and the continuous technological progress they have driven, have led to increased renown.

This reputation is expressed in the brand Bretagne Sailing Valley®. A brand that aims at bringing Brittany's competitive sailing skills and know-how to the attention of people in France and abroad. It is a collective banner for an ecosystem that is unique in the world.

How did Brittany become the Silicon Valley of Competitive Sailing?

Carole Bournon is in charge of the competitive sailing and composite materials sector at Bretagne Développement Innovation - Eurolarge Innovation programme

Historically, Brittany's heritage and geography have kept it looking towards the sea. Although it only makes up 6% of the French mainland, it comprises 30% of the French coastline. It has many ports (military, trade, fishing and leisure). It is also a region of sailors. When Eric Tabarly dropped anchor in Brittany in the 1980s, he brought in his wake a whole generation of sailors and a slew of skills. This brilliant and visionary sailor arrived in Brittany and gave the sector a serious boost which has remained to this day.

One decade later, the reconversion of the Lorient submarine base into a nautical hub specialising in offshore racing, and the creation of the Pôle Finistère centre of excellence in offshore racing training, have brought a breath of fresh air to the economy of the sailing sector in Brittany.

An Ecosystem Unique in the

World



The Economic Weight of Competitive Sailing in Brittany

In 2017, as part of the Eurolarge Innovation programme, the regional economic development agency, Bretagne Développement Innovation published a study entitled “The Economy of Competitive Sailing in Brittany”.

Completed in 2018, this document¹ describes a thriving sector.

The figures in “The Economy of Competitive Sailing” come from a survey conducted in 162 companies (industry, trade, services), for the initial study (2017), and in over 200 race teams and sports projects for the additional study (2018).

As well as economic data, the study provides details to help EUROLARGE INNOVATION orientate their regional measures such as support for innovation and international development in the sector, and promote diversification.

The document also sheds light on the perspectives of future markets such as foils and flying boats or the development of digital services like data analysis; trends that the studies explain will affect the sector in the future.

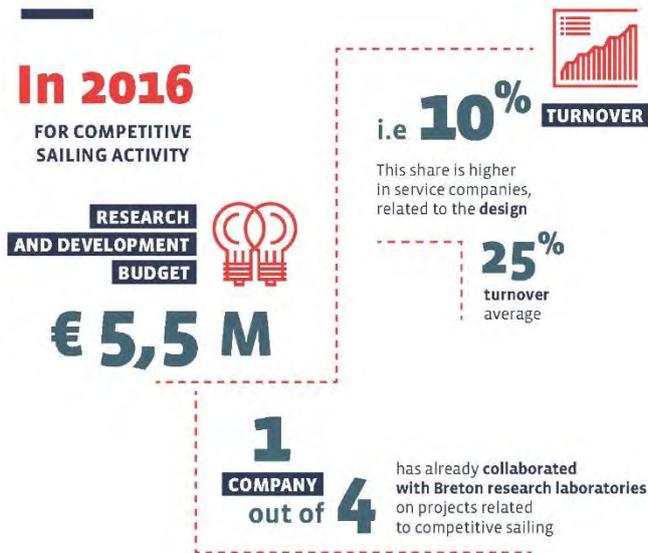


Key Figures

- **162 economic actors** (industries, trade and services) were identified or 13% of the nautical sector in Brittany (1235 entities).
- Associated activities generate **28 trades** (architecture and shipbuilding, IT, rigging, appendages, sails, etc.).
- These economic actors generate sales of 205 million Euros including **56 million Euros exclusively in competitive sailing** (+9% in 2016).
- **1 536 employees** work in this sector including 711 in the competition sector.
- Budget for **research and development: 5.5 million Euros**.
- 1 company in 4 has already used a research laboratory in competitive sailing.
- 93 companies trade internationally.
>> *Source initial survey in companies (2017)*
- **+200 race teams and sports projects** active in competitive racing in Brittany
- The overall annual budget is estimated at **€58 M** (48% in the IMOCA Class)
- This activity generates **+320 jobs, including 120 temporary jobs**
>> *Source additional survey in race teams (2018)*

¹Following the 1st study in 2017, a 2nd study was conducted in 2018 on the economy of the race teams and professional competitive sailing projects.

Research & Development (Industries, trade, services)



Zoom on the FoilAddiCT Project

As the study reveals, 1 company in 4 has already used a research laboratory in competitive sailing. FoilAddiCT - Foil Additive Composite Technologies - is one example of this type of **collaborative project between research and corporate actors**. It was started in 2016 and has received support from the Brittany region as part of the EMC2 competition cluster's call for projects.

Headed by Absolute Dreamer, the project also involves SEAir and the University of Bretagne Sud (Compositic). The goal is to design prototypes and produce foils for racing and cruising yachts, using the innovative and automated processes of additive manufacturing.

Through the FoilAddict project, the aim of the consortium** is to work on these manufacturing processes and combine them to confirm their technical suitability (geometric and mechanical characteristics) and economic viability (costs across the design & manufacturing chain) to be able to produce prototype or series foils.



Left: Bateau Easy To Fly - Copyright Absolute Dreamer // right: Foil produced by AVEL Robotics for the FoilAddict project – A. Pilpré – Absolute Dreamer

* The FoilAddiCT project meets the EMC2 Technological Challenge to "Produce Better": Innovation in product industrialisation and manufacture", particularly concerning the aspects of "Automation of industrial systems and processes" and "Innovation in materials and processes".

** Absolute Dreamer, SEAir, Université Bretagne Sud (Compositic), EMC2 competition cluster.

Copyright photo: Veronese

Trends & Future Markets

Companies are preparing for major changes in their profession and in their future markets.

During the study conducted by Bretagne Développement Innovation, partly in companies and partly with race teams and sailors, actors mention several major developments in the 10 years to come.

To the question “Navigation, technology and innovation supports: what developments for the 10 next years?”,

- Companies replied (in % of comments):

- 44%: **generalisation of foils and flying boats,**
- 14%: optimisation of **material performance** (carbon, composite fibres, recycled materials, etc.),
- 11%: greater presence of **electronics** and **digital** (autopilot, onboard IT, etc.).

- **Sailors** replied (in % of comments):

- 72%: generalisation of foils and flying boats,
- 14%: other innovations (composites, design, safety, digital, etc.),
- 14 %: change in the profiles within teams (women, young talent, engineers, top athletes).

Although there is a consensus on the generalisation of foils and flying boats, sailors see far more clearly how this new method of navigation will impact the competitive sailing sector.

Sector Growth Drivers: International Expansion and Diversification

The study identified 3 main growth drivers for the sector:

- **International:** more than half of the companies are present internationally, especially in European areas. An effort remains to be made in export (only 29% of companies are present) especially in English-speaking countries such as the United States and New Zealand; promising markets for competitive sailing.
- **Presence of boat classes:** stronger presence in some classes is possible (Volvo, Class40, etc.) and growth is possible in the Olympic circuit and the America’s Cup.
- **Diversification:** the study revealed that companies operate mainly in a single market (nautical), although some of them are starting to work in shipbuilding, composite materials, aeronautics, defence and marine renewable energies. Their technological know-how is highly appreciated, and these are therefore important avenues for growth.

The EUROLARGE INNOVATION Corporate Support Programme



In order to support economic development and promote the regional sector, the Région Bretagne set up Eurolarge Innovation, a program for actors in the competitive sailing sector (companies, institutions and research centres). It fosters meetings and exchanges between actors. It provides support for innovative projects and measures to diversify or expand internationally. Finally, it contributes to developing skills by organizing regular technical days.

The programme is led and managed by Bretagne Développement Innovation, the region’s economic development agency.

Classes and Races, Driving the Dynamic

With major offshore races such as the Route du Rhum, the Vendée Globe and the Trophée Jules Verne, one-design classes (such as Figaro, Imoca, Ultim', Mini 6.50 most located in Bretagne Sailing Valley), are a speciality in France.

Other major races also include the Transat Jacques Vabre, Transat Québec-Saint-Malo, mini Transat and the coastal races Tour de France à la voile, the spi Ouest-France, and the Solitaire du Figaro.

More recently, Brittany has organised two new non-stop races; Lorient les Bermudes Lorient and Brest Oceans, showcasing the giant multihulls in the Ultim 32/23 class.

All of these races produce mainly French sailing champions.

The rise in technology in competitions and the increasing power and speed of the boats imposing new constraints on skippers, is driving the competitive sailing sector forward and contributing to healthy innovation.

Detection and Training

Bretagne – Crédit Mutuel Sector of Excellence in Offshore Racing

Detect and train young champions, and support them in their race to the highest level: that is the aim of the offshore racing sector of excellence, a professional scheme initiated and supported by the Brittany region and the mutual bank Crédit Mutuel de Bretagne.

Today, France is the only country in the world to offer detection in offshore racing.

This professional scheme, supported by the Pôle Finistère Course au Large (certified by the French Sailing Federation), consists of providing time and resources to two young sailors (one hopeful and one experienced skipper) to develop their project, cultivate their talent and enable them to compete at the highest level.

Since its creation in 2011, this scheme has revealed a number of talented young sailors (see inset).

Michel Desjoyeaux, Jean Le Cam, Roland Jourdain, among others have helped to build the sector and have embodied and passed on the values of this top sport to younger hopefuls.

The training for young skippers includes sailing practice, weather courses, physical and mental preparation, management, communication, etc., transforming them into real project managers. In this training scheme, each athlete is at the centre of the project.

Key Figures:

2 boats: Espoir and Performance

2 sailors

2 partners: the regional Council of Brittany and the bank, Crédit Mutuel de Bretagne

17 skippers have passed through the offshore racing sector of excellence including **Franck Cammas, Armel Le Cléac'h and François Gabart.**

Team France Jeune

The Team France Jeune adventure started at the end of 2015. This is an innovative project, initiated by the Association Team France with the support of its public and private partner institutions. The aim of the scheme is to train a group of talented young athletes and bring them to compete in high-level competitions in France and abroad.

Since November 2015, there have been two successive selections in the sector. They were organised by the Association Team France in collaboration with the National School for Sailing and Water Sports (ENVSN) and the French Sailing Federation (FFVoile).

The scheme allowed 8 out of the 14 young athletes selected to join the final team which represented France in the Red Bull Youth America's Cup, on AC45Fs, hydrofoil wingsail yachts. The competition was organised in Bermuda as a prelude to the 2017 America's Cup, and enabled the best young hopefuls in international sailing to compete.



Bretagne Sailing Valley[®] welcomes you...

Pays de Cornouaille

Day 1: Thursday 20 September 2018



BRETAGNE SAILING VALLEY

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Cornouaille welcomes you...

In a basin of 270,000 inhabitants, Cornouaille is home to three sectors of excellence: maritime, tourism and food. Competitive sailing is a major component of the maritime sector.

Behind the skippers are competitive sailing teams (Mer Concept-Macif, Kairos, Mer Agitée, etc.) and boatyards (CDK Technologies, Pogo-Structures, ADH Inotec, etc.) who specialise in **building** and developing all types of racing yachts: from the Mini 6.50 to the Ultim' trimarans. A devoted **ecosystem of services and research and development** has set up around these companies; equipment, calculation, communication, etc. This sector of excellence drives the nautical industry in Cornouaille, which also produces cruise ships.

As for **training**, Cornouaille hosts the Finistère offshore racing hub. Based in Port-la-Forêt, this **national centre of expertise** trains skippers (Imoca, Figaro, etc.). Sailors come from all over France and abroad to take advantage of this training which is unique in Europe.

Major **nautical events** are organised here, such as the Grand Prix Guyader in Douarnenez bay, the Transat AG2R La Mondiale in Concarneau or the Wave Games in La Torche: the best wind and kite surfers, surfers and paddle-boarders will all be here in October 2018.

The offshore racing sector is supported by institutional stakeholders, namely:

- The department of Finistère and Finistère 360, very active in the Finistère offshore racing Pole of Excellence.
- Technopole Quimper Cornouaille: an arm of the Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique, supporting companies with their innovations (contact: +33 2 98 100 200).
- Quimper Cornouaille Développement: Cornouaille's economic development agency, partner to the Yacht Racing Forum for its members, the towns in the region that support their companies and nautical events. (Contact : +33 2 98 10 34 00).

AIM45

Measurement and Analysis of Racing Yachts

Bretagne Sailing Valley is a region conducive to the emergence of breakthrough innovative solutions for competitive sailing.

AIM45 develops solutions for measuring and analysing racing yachts. The company offers a range of services from measurement of indicators to the interpretation of data and design of business tools.

AIM45 is an approved dealer for Adrena and SailingPerformance tools.

With the advent of flying boats, AIM45 is conducting research into new data analysis tools. The diversification of sensors and the complexity of onboard measurement systems requires an answer to the new challenges of these flying boats.

The goal is to provide the right targeted response. This means making sense of the data used to further knowledge by means of objective facts: data to back up the right decision at the right time.

AIM45 offers its expertise in the development of racing yachts but also in the maritime and environmental sector.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 2014
- CEO: Olivier Douillard
- Employees: 2
- Sales: €140,000
- References in competitive sailing:
 - Dongfeng,
 - Gitana (MOD, IMOCA, Maxi-Trimaran),
 - IMOCA PRB,
 - Figaro Safran-GuyCotten,
 - Wally "Ryokan",
 - Maxi Yacht "Aragon"
- Location: Fouesnant, Finistère (29)

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Ino-Rope

Integrator of Textile Solutions for Boating and Industry



Our project was developed 100% from the Mini 6.50 class, by a former skipper with over 35,000 miles of racing to his name! Competitive sailing is a wonderful showcase, but also represents a perfect laboratory! Our location in the heart of the Sailing Valley enables us to be where all the best projects are happening.

From racing yachts to ecological mooring lines, via bracing of civilian and military structures and offshore connections, the textile solutions developed by Ino-Rope offer significant savings in terms of weight and size, security and durability.

The R&D department is constantly looking for new textile concepts, starting with a blank page as simply as possible!

Offshore racing where the company started, can be used to test prototypes rapidly in the harshest conditions.

Each idea that is validated then goes through an industrialisation process using local sub-contractors working in close proximity.

A webshop, renowned ambassadors, strong partners and a budding global distribution network allow Ino-Rope to share its solutions in all sectors!

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 2013
- CEO: Thibault Reinhart
- Employees: 13
- Sales: €388,000
- References in competitive sailing: Vendée Globe, Class 40, Mini 6,50, figaro, Nacra 17
- Location: Concarneau, Finistère (29)

Awards won nationally and internationally:

- Nomination Dame Award, Winch Pitch (twice)

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Macif – MerConcept

François Gabart's Race Team



"Dream Big!"

MerConcept designs, builds, develops and supports efficient and innovative maritime projects.

The team is comprised of sailors, engineers, technical experts and project management specialists.

Created by François Gabart, the company is resolutely geared for innovation and excellence, and is at the forefront of technology in the maritime field.

With an experienced engineering department, it intends to contribute to the current revolution in the sailing sector, where flying yachts have brought us into a new era.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 2006
- CEO: François Gabart
- Employees: 33 people
- References in competitive sailing: Current holder of the solo round-the-world record in 42 days, winner of The Bridge 2017, winner of the 2016 Transat Bakerly, winner of the 2015 Jacques Vabre Transat, winner of the 2014 Route du Rhum, winner of the 2013 Vendée Globe.
- Location: La Forêt-Fouesnant, Finistère (29)

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Mer Agitée – TrimControl

The Race Team of Michel Desjoyeaux / Electronic Telltale



"With the brand TrimControl®, we are making our experience in offshore racing, our culture of performance and innovation available to the sailing and wind energy sectors."

Mer Agitée is the offshore race team of Michel Desjoyeaux. Its main business is preparing boats for major offshore races including the Vendée Globe and the Route du Rhum for sponsors (FONCIA, MACIF, SMA, etc.). Sailing is seen as a test bed for industrial applications which can also benefit from innovations developed in different arena, but that deal with similar issues.

The electronic telltale (ePenon) is part of Mer Agitée's diversification strategy. The goal is to bring developments made in the world of motor sports and offshore racing to the industrial sector (wind energy, merchant marine, etc.), through the brand TrimControl®.

The eTellTale is a sensor that measures the airflow across a sail or wind turbine blade allowing constant monitoring in real-time of aerodynamic performance. Currently, the eTellTale is a breakthrough that has no competition.

The obvious goal of the eTellTale is energy efficiency. The challenge is to adjust the same wind turbine blade or boat sail better.

Mer Agitée's ambition is to become a major player in real-time aerodynamic adjustment, based on its experience and expertise in competitive offshore racing. There are considerable economic issues in the wind energy sector but also in sailing.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 1999
- CEO: Michel Desjoyeaux
- Employees: 15 (May 2018)
- Sales: €3,249,213 (April 2017)
- References in competitive sailing:
 - Vendée Globe including 4 wins
 - More than 25 racing transats, with many podiums and wins in the Route du Rhum, the Transat Jacques Vabre, The Transat, etc.
 - 5 Solitaires du Figaro including 2 podiums and one win.
 - Sport, technical, administrative and logistics management of over 50 Grands Prix, double or crewed regattas on monohulls and multihulls
- Location: La Forêt Fouesnant, Finistère (29)

Awards won nationally and internationally

- Feb 2016: Accreditation of the eTellTale project by S2E2 and Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique
- Sep 2016: eTellTale project winner of Initiative PME – Renewable Energies
- Nov 2016: Trim Control nominated for the Dame Award (MetsTrade 2016)
- Dec 2016: Trim Control "The TellTale of the Future", High Technology Prize (Fédération des industries nautiques)

Equipment provided for the races

- Route du Rhum 2018
 - 1 Imoca = SMA
 - 1 Ultim' = Trimaran MACIF

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Pogo Structures

Shipyard

"Competitive sailing is the common thread running through our business. Since we started in 1987, we have built around 300 Pogo 6.50 yachts for the Class Mini and its flagship race, the Mini Transat, and around 50 Pogo 40s for the Class 40 which is the largest fleet in the Route du Rhum. These offshore racing boats gave birth to our range of rapid cruisers from 30 to 50 feet. We are located in South Brittany, in the heart of the dynamic Sailing Valley."

The Structures shipyard builds rapid yachts suitable for offshore sailing and small crews. The team at Structures is comprised of people who are passionate about boats, both racers and cruisers, who have dedicated themselves over more than 30 years to developing and building these fun, modern sailing boats, accessible to all.

The design and development of these yachts is driven by competition:

- Search for performance under sail over a very wide wind range
- Easy to use
- Reliable techniques and materials
- Safe
- Thrills at the helm
- Stable under autopilot
- Balanced under sail

Technology and experience from offshore racing applied to cruise boats:

Pogos have won a significant number of offshore races including the Mini-Transat, the Transquadra, the Québec Saint-Malo, the Route du Rhum, etc. We are proud of this, as we are of the hundreds of Pogos cruising trouble-free all around the world for the sole pleasure of their owners and their families and friends.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 1987
- CEO: Christian Bouroullec
- Employees: 75 people
- Sales: €9 million
- References in competitive sailing: The Pogo 1, 2, and 3 have on several occasions won all the races in the Class Mini racing schedule since 1997. Four generations of the Pogo 40 have won numerous races in the Class 40, including the Route du Rhum, and the Québec Saint Malo.
- Location: Combrit, Finistère (29)

Awards won nationally and internationally

- Pogo 8.50: yacht of the year in France in 2000
- Pogo 10.50: yacht of the year in France in 2009
- Pogo 12.50: European yacht of the year 2012, in the "performance cruiser" category
- Pogo 36: European yacht of the year 2017, in the "performance cruiser" category

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Bretagne Sailing Valley[©] welcomes you...

Golfe du Morbihan – Vannes

Day 1: Thursday 20 September 2018



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BRETAGNE SAILING VALLEY

Golfe du Morbihan - Vannes Agglomération welcomes you

Golfe du Morbihan-Vannes Agglomération includes 34 communes and counts 170,000 inhabitants including Vannes, the **second largest** town in the department for the number of inhabitants.

The largest townland in the Morbihan, it extends over 807 km² and 423 km of coastline; it is an **authentic maritime region**.

With a strong and diverse economic fabric comprising 17,000 companies providing 70,000 jobs, this varied region has a dynamic ecosystem with **5 key sectors** supported by nationally and internationally renowned leaders:

- Industry
- Transport and Logistics
- ICT and software
- Food
- Boating

The latter business sector is especially active in **leisure and competitive sailing**.

Major **international companies** such as a Plasmor, Bic Sport, Multiplast, North Sails, etc. were born or grew out of the natural playground that is the Golfe du Morbihan.

Numerous racing yachts have been designed or built in Vannes thanks to celebrated naval architects such as Finot-Conq and VPLP.

Conducive to creation, the region is home to innovative companies in the boating sector: Héol composites, Tiwal, Naviwatt, Sellerie Nautic Aérec...

In line with the boating sector, the region is working to promote and professionalise young skippers, in partnership with Geyer Frères and their Lorina brand, as part of a public/private partnership.

For example, **Team Lorina Golfe du Morbihan** has participated in the **Tour de France à la Voile** since 2016 achieving great success: a professional win in 2016, and a youth win in 2017.

This year, the Tour de France à la Voile stopped in Baden on 15 July.

Heol Composites

Lightweight, hollow composite parts



In the Vannes countryside, HEOL Composites is proud to help to make the most beautiful boats fly around the world using our hollow structural parts technology - including foils - innovative and renowned.

Heol Composites is an expert in the construction of hollow structural carbon fibre parts, with reinforced mechanical properties, in a single-stage process cured in an autoclave (7 bars 180°C) from pre-preg carbon/epoxy.

Offshore racing is in the DNA of Héol Composites and its employees. The parts manufactured by the company sail around the world in competitions such as the Vendée Globe, the Volvo Ocean Race or ultra-sporty regattas such as the America's Cup and Extreme Sailing.

For 15 years, Heol Composites has fostered a mutual relationship of trust and respect with skippers and their technical teams who recognise the reliability of the technology used by the company and which has contributed to their greatest victories.

Spars (equipment parts such as masts, booms, poles, bowsprits, spreaders, mainsail battens), appendages (submerged elements, such as rudders, keelfins, daggerboards, and foils) and our internal structural parts (mast braces, daggerboard up structure, biconical tubes...) have mechanical specifications which are optimised for competition.

Our daggerboards with T foils and adjustable flaps, alongside our lifting rudders and our foils which could be monolithic, solid and / or hollow, in one or two pieces and with varying hydrodynamic profiles, will equally enthuse competitive sailors as well as sailors of luxury super yachts, with an incontestable increase in performance, all around the world.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 2002
- CEO: Jean-Paul Dufau
- Employees: 10
- Sales: €1.7M
- References in competitive sailing:
 - Trimarans Ultim' (Gitana 17 for Sébastien Josse, Banque Populaire IX for Armel Le Cléac'h and Sodebo for Thomas Coville): internal structural parts to withstand XXL stresses, central daggerboard with adjustable foil, foil adjustment belt, hollow T-shaped rudders
 - Imoca 60' for the 2017 Vendée Globe (Banque Populaire VIII, Maître Coq, St Michel-Virbac, Edmond de Rothschild, No Way Back, Groupe Safran): co-design and manufacture of the first generations of ocean-going foilers
 - AC45/50 for Groupama Team France Franck Cammas: foils and foil rudders for the 35th edition of the Americas' Cup in the Bermudas
 - Ultra-sporty GC 32 Catamarans for the Extreme Sailing series: all the generations of foils and rudders with one-design elevator

Equipment provided for the races: very large majority of mini 6.50 masts, 6 Imocas out of 7 fitted with foils for the last Vendée Globe.

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Multiplast – Groupe Carboman

Composite Materials and Construction of Carbon Racing Yachts



Copyright Yvan Zedda

Competitive sailing is in the DNA of Multiplast

Located in Vannes since 1981 in the heart of the Sailing Valley, Multiplast is also close to the Airbus factories in Nantes and Saint-Nazaire. This location enables the company to remain close to its customers in offshore racing and to the aeronautics industry. A considerable advantage to reply as effectively as possible to its nautical and industrial challenges.

Research centres such as Compositic in Lorient and the EMC2 cluster in Nantes are also huge assets for Multiplast in its R&D policies.

Finally, its facilities located on the edge of the Golfe du Morbihan allow the company to host offshore racing teams in excellent conditions, in offices located on the same site as yacht construction. Proximity is a factor of efficiency and ensures perfect transfer of information between designers and the Multiplast teams in charge of building the racing yachts.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 1981
- CEO: Yann Penfornis
- Employees: 104
- Sales: €9.5M
- References in competitive sailing:
 - 6 Trophées Jules Verne
 - 1 Single-handed round-the-world record
 - 1 Whitbread
 - 2 Volvo Ocean Race
 - 1 Imoca World Championship
 - 6 Atlantic Records
 - 2 Class C World Championships
 - and numerous Transatlantic races...
- Location: Vannes, Morbihan (56)

Awards won nationally and internationally: Boat of the year - Mestrade

Equipment provided for the races:

- 100% of the French challengers for the America's Cup
- 30% of the new Imocas for the last Vendée Globe
- 70% of the Ultim' trimaran fleet
- 50% of the Volvo fleet

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North Sails

R&D Centre for Sail Design and Production



Copyright Yan Roman

North Sails France developed at the same time as the Sailing Valley so characteristic of Brittany. Excellence in offshore racing, whatever the equipment or class in question, is now recognised all over the world. Being a part of the Sailing Valley provides both motivation and opportunity on a day-to-day basis.

North Sails was created in 1957 by Lowell North. The company's DNA has always been innovation both in the tools used (first computer-designed sails, first sailmaker to use CFD, etc.) and in the development of new products such as the 3DL (first 3D-moulded sails) or more recently 3Di (first and only sails in mould flexible filament composite).

North Sails France is a team of 40 to 45 people (design office, production, service, sales administration) spread over two sites (Vannes and Mouans Sartoux). The company grew quickly between 2005 and today, multiplying its sales by 3 to reach between 11 and 13 million Euros.

Part of the North Sails group, North Sails France is recognised by its parent company as an R&D centre and a site specialising in the production and design of OffShore sails (Ultim' - IMOCA - VOR - Class 40 - etc.). North Sails offers products designed for every practice, from cruising to regattas of all types, from Optimist to Ultim'.

To date, North Sails equip all of the Ultim' multihulls (Actual, Banque Populaire, Gitana, IDEC, Macif, Sodebo, etc.) and 5 of the 6 leading boats in the last two Vendée Globe Challenge.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 2000
- CEO: Greg Evrard
- Employees: 42
- Sales: €11.5 million
- 100% of the Ultim's – IMOCA's (Winners of the 2012/2013 and 2016/2017 Vendée Globe)
- Round-the-world records single-handed, crewed, in monohull and multihull
- Supplier to the Volvo Ocean Race
- Vannes, Morbihan (56)

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VPLP Design Vannes

Naval Architects



Copyright VPLP Design

Bretagne Sailing Valley: the place to be for racing yacht designers.

Following their studies at Southampton Solent University, Vincent Lauriot-Prévost and Marc Van Peteghem came together to create the naval architect firm VPLP Design in 1983.

Today, VPLP Design a world-renowned naval architectural firm.

2 offices in Vannes and Paris complement each other, the first specialised in high-performance boats and the second in yachts, production boats and special projects such as Oceanwings, a revolutionary rigid, articulated wingsail.

VPLP Design Vannes specialised in designing multihulls, then in 2005 monohulls. Their boats were immediately successful, beating all significant single-handed and crewed sailing records, both in mono- and multihulls, and race wins including 7 successive Route du Rhum since 1990, the last two Vendée Globe and the America's Cup in 2010.

The Paris agency develops yacht cruisers such as "Douce France" and "Hémisphère" - the two largest cruising catamarans in the world. Its team designed the whole of the Lagoon range for Groupe Bénéteau. Since 1986, more than 4,000 units have been produced.

As well as skill in naval architecture, the teams are at the forefront of design and innovation.

With its experience in the America's Cup, Imoca and Ultim', VPLP Design owns and develops the most up to date digital simulation tools for hydro and aerodynamics (CFD, AVL code, VPP, routing).

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 1983
- CEO: Vincent Lauriot Prévost
- Employees: 9
- Sales: €1.3M
- References in competitive sailing: see above
- Location: Vannes, Morbihan (56)

Awards won nationally and internationally:

- 1 time: winner of America's cup BMW Oracle in 2010
- 2 times: winner of Vendée Globe in 2012 and 2016
- 7 time: winner of the Route du Rhum from 1990 to 2014
- 2 times: winner of Sydney Hobart and record Comanche in 2015 and 2017
- 40 days: winner of the Jules Verne Trophy trimaran Idec in 2016
- 42 days: winner of Singlehanded round the world record trimaran Macif in 2017
- 618 miles: Record 24h monohull sailing Comanche in 2015
- 537 miles: Record 24h monohull sailing singlehanded Hugo Boss in 2015
- 908 miles: Record 24h trimaran sailing Maxi Banque Populaire in 2009
- 851 miles: Record 24h trimaran single handed Macif Ultim' in 2017
- 51 knots: Record for 1 nm in 2009 Hydroptère

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Bretagne Sailing Valley[®] welcomes you...

Lorient Bretagne Sud

Day 2: Friday 21 September 2018



BRETAGNE SAILING VALLEY

Copyright: FLY

Lorient Bretagne Sud welcomes you...

Lorient Bretagne Sud is the 3rd largest town in Brittany with 207,000 inhabitants. It is one hour from Paris by plane, three hours by train and well served by rail links and two highways that place Brest, Rennes and Nantes only two hours away by car. Lorient Bretagne Sud's development is focused mainly on the sea. Its economy has always been very dynamic in the shipbuilding, nautical and leisure boating sectors, with 14,000 jobs in the greater Lorient area.

- 200 companies in the nautical sector in the region, including 50 in offshore racing
- 807 jobs on the Lorient La Base site

Following 15 years of rehabilitation and nearly €64 million euros of investment, the former submarine base in Lorient is now the leading European hub for offshore racing, hosting a concentration of major nautical companies: engineering firms such as PIXEL SURMER, PLASTIMO for outfitting, MARSAUDON COMPOSITE for composites, BLEW STOUB for textile solutions, etc. All the companies on the site, now named Lorient La Base, are constantly innovating in the field of offshore racing.

In 2016, the offshore racing hub at Lorient La Base hosted more than one third of the participants in the Vendée Globe and 45% of the competitors in the 2017 Transat Jacques Vabre. Ultim', IMOCA, Class40, Figaro or Mini 6.50, more than 100 enthusiastic skippers have made Lorient their home port, preparing their victories here with the companies in the region. Leading race teams (Banque Populaire, Gitana Team, Initiatives Cœur, UCAR, Oman Sail, Sodebo, etc.) and their skippers (Armel Le Cléac'h, Sébastien Josse, Jean-Pierre Dick, Jérémie Beyou, Yann Elies, Sam Davies, Lionel Lemonchois, Sidney Gaignet, Thomas Ruyant, Stéphane Le Diraison, etc.) imagine, design and optimize their boats at Lorient La Base. This proximity makes for a stimulating environment, rich in competition and sharing.

Offshore racing at Lorient La Base is:

- 6,000m² of buildings, hangars, sailmakers, offices, etc.
- 1 kilometre of pontoons
- 6.5m draught suitable for giant yachts
- 12 international race teams
- 3 Ultim'
- 100 skippers

On 5th May 2019, all eyes will be turned towards Lorient La Base: 40 years after the very first Lorient-Les Bermudes-Lorient race, won by Eugène Riguidel and Gilles Gahinet, this phoenix will be rising from its ashes. Included on the Ultim' 32/23 class schedule and open to the IMOCA's, this race includes a 6,000-mile return journey across the Atlantic. Organised by Lorient Grand Large, the association responsible for managing the only port devoted to offshore racing in the world, the new race will set off on a crewed sprint equivalent to two transatlantic races.

AVEL Robotics (formerly Absolute Composite)

Automated manufacture of high-performance carbon parts

The strength of the “Sailing Valley” in south Brittany lies in bringing together a set of skills around the manufacture of the most powerful yachts. AVEL robotics illustrates this positive energy using a robot designed in Lorient for the aeronautics sector and used in competitive sailing.

AVEL Robotics (formerly Absolute Composite) was founded in 2017 to offer aeronautical technology to the sailing and boating world.

The company manufactures foils, rudders, etc. using an Automated Fiber Placement (AFP) machine.

Its advantages: perfect positioning, perfect control of the result and hence the mechanical performances of the final part, reproducibility, speed of execution, etc.

These assets make it the perfect tool for manufacturing parts in series (foils, rudders, booms, mast bulkheads and eventually hulls).

Its strengths naturally make it attractive to boat builders and equipment manufacturers in offshore racing, who have increasingly high expectations in terms of performance.

Data and key figures:

- Founded: 2017
- CEO: Luc Talbourdet
- Employees: 7
- Sales: NC
- References in competitive sailing: Manufacture of foils and foiling rudders for Easy to Fly
- Location: LORIENT, Morbihan (56)

Awards won nationally and internationally

- Prize for the best START-UP at the December 2017 Paris Boat Show

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Défi Azimut

The 2018 edition of the Défi AZIMUT for the IMOCA 60 fleet will take place on 21, 22 and 23 September 2018 and is already lining up to be quite a race!



Copyright: ©Yvan Zedda / Défi Azimut

The Défi Azimut is a showcase for our technological and digital tools. It's also a fantastic playground for team work.

The 2018 edition: Just a few weeks before the start of the mythical "Route du Rhum destination Guadeloupe", the Défi Azimut will enable the skippers competing to refine their final adjustments and tactics. Around fifteen boats have already signed up for the 2018 race and a fabulous spectacle is on the cards for the start in Lorient.

The event grows bigger every year and is now on the racing schedule of the most renowned skippers. The race is a prelude to the annual offshore racing season (Route du Rhum, Vendée Globe, Transat Jacques Vabre).

Created from the encounter of the IMOCA class including skippers in the Vendée Globe and the company Azimut, the Défi Azimut aims at combining performance, innovation and conviviality. Highly competitive sport on the water and plenty of conviviality on land are the trademarks of this increasingly successful race.

Data and key figures:

- Azimut created in: 1994
- Défi Azimut created in: 2011
- CEO: Jean-Marie Corteville
- Employees: 15
- Boats entered in 2018: 16
- References in competitive sailing: boat classes (IMOCA, class 40, class Mini, class Figaro), Bretagne Info Nautisme, Bretagne Pôle Naval, Lorient Grand Large, Lorima, JPK, MACIF, Banque Populaire, Groupama, Volvo...
- Location: Larmor-Plage, Morbihan
- Website:

Awards won nationally and internationally

- Label "BPI Excellence"
- Innovation award at the tradeshow for local authorities.

Equipment provided for the races: Digital tools (web, applications, interactive terminals)

* For 30 years, Azimut has been designing and developing digital solutions for managing, organising and broadcasting information. The sailing and offshore racing sector is one of its strategic areas of development.

To strengthen its presence in Brittany and promote the company's know-how, Azimut created the "Défi Azimut" yacht race in 2011. The Défi Azimut enables the company to test its digital innovations in a real yachting situation.

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GSEA Design

Structural Calculations

Innovation and excellence at GSea Design have been core beliefs spanning 3 generations of engineers. The company works on 99% of offshore races, in teams in the America's Cup, ULTIM' and IMOCA classes, etc. It was essential to set up the company in Lorient in the heart of the Sailing Valley to make the most of the ecosystem.

Originating in the company HDS, a pioneer in composite racing masts, GSea Design followed the development of composite materials in competitive sailing.

The company makes calculations to ensure it designs and manufactures **reliable and innovative** composite structures for its customers; fully living up to their **ideas and needs**, be they offshore racing yachts, cruisers or industrial projects.

The company has been growing for **over twenty years**, designing masts, rudders, wings and foils for the largest racing yachts: BMW Oracle, the winner of the America's Cup in 2010, the Hydroptère with Eric Tabarly, the ULTIM'S seeking to beat the record of Francis Joyon, Thomas Coville, François Gabart, Armel Le Cleac'h...

GSea Design always stays one step ahead and enables its customers to simplify their strategic processes.

Data and key figures

- Founded: 2010
- CEO: Denis Glehen
- Employees: 17
- Sales: €1,400,000
- References in competitive sailing:
 - Ultim' class: MACIF/BANQUE POPULAIRE 9/SODEBO/IDEC
 - IMOCA: official class engineering + intervention on most of the boats (mast, keel, platform, foils)
 - America's Cup: involved in the latest edition of GROUPAMA TEAM FRANCE/ARTEMIS
 - VOLVO OCEAN RACE: Part of the GROUPAMA 4 design team, winner of the 2011-12 edition
- Location: LORIENT, Morbihan (56)

Awards won nationally and internationally

- 2014: High Technology award from the Fédération des Industries Nautiques for the development of the foil concept
- 2016: High Technology award from the Fédération des Industries Nautiques for SOFIA, Outil Interaction Fluide Structure for the design of appendages

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Keroman Technologies - CDK

Construction of competitive carbon yachts / high-performance composite technical parts.

Offshore racing has been in our DNA for more than 30 years, allowing us to work with extraordinary skippers and teams, for whom we develop leading-edge products and technologies in high-performance composites. Permanent innovation is part of our professional approach, combining exceptional manual know-how with leading-edge industrial technologies. We are proud to fly the flag of the Bretagne Sailing Valley, this unique concentration of small and medium-sized technology companies with complementary skills.

CDK and KEROMAN Technologies are leading boat-builders in their market, specialised in the construction of carbon racing yachts and high-performance composite technical parts.

The yard's reputation has been earned through the many victories its boats have clocked up in major offshore races, including the last 3 Vendée Globe races, the Trophée Jules Verne, the Route du Rhum, the single-handed round-the-world record, etc. CDK and KEROMAN built the 2 ULTIM' trimarans MACIF and BANQUE POPULAIRE 9, and are the only boatyards in Europe to have built 3 IMOCA's for the 2020 Vendée Globe.

CDK and KEROMAN have unique know-how in Europe, covering the entire construction of large-scale composite platforms for offshore racing: manufacture of structural parts in a 35m autoclave, manufacture of masts and booms in a 50m autoclave.

Specialised in firing high-performance carbon parts in autoclave, CDK and KEROMAN are also present on the market for large-scale prototype foils (for the ULTIM' MACIF and the IMOCA PRB).

KEROMAN Technologies, growing in Lorient, has just acquired a 120°C autoclave measuring 40m x 10m x 7m to be commissioned in September.

This technological excellence in the niche market of offshore racing has enabled the company to diversify towards industrial, MRE and defence markets which currently represent 10% of its sales.

Data and key figures

- Founded: 1984
- CEO: Philippe Facque
- Employees: 70
- Sales: €7 M
- References in competitive sailing:
 - 9 IMOCA's manufactured to date. 3 IMOCA'S under construction (CHARAL, APIVIA, ARKEA PAPREC)
 - Manufacturer of the MOD70 trimarans,
 - Manufacturer of SPINDRIFT, the largest racing trimaran in the world
 - Manufacturer of the ULTIM', MACIF and MAXI SOLO BANQUE POPULAIRE trimarans
 - IMOCA MACIF, BP9, SPINDRIFT masts
 - ULTIM' Trimaran MACIF, SODEBO 5 et MAXI SOLO BANQUE POPULAIRE booms
- Location: Lorient (56), Port La Forêt (29)

Awards won nationally and internationally

- Winner of 4 Vendée Globes, including the last 3 (FONCIA, MACIF, BP8),
- Trophée Jules Verne (Banque Populaire 5),
- Single-handed round-the-world record (Trimaran MACIF),
- Route du Rhum (FONCIA),
- Transat Jacques VABRE (Trimaran MACIF)

Equipment provided for the races: 30 to 40% of the ULTIM', IMOCA and MULTI50 fleets depending on the races

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Lorima

World Leader in Carbon Masts

Located in Lorient, the cradle of offshore racing in France, LORIMA is a world leader in the manufacture of carbon masts for racing or cruising yachts.

From racing yachts for development to luxury superyachts for brand image, all our customers, be they the owners of a 35-footer or a 145-footer, can make use of LORIMA technology, innovation for the construction of carbon fibre masts and spars.

LORIMA masts are “one shot” built in carbon fibre in our 38m long autoclave.

Light, aesthetic but able to withstand extreme loads, our products are manufactured using top-of-the-range technology, by a team that is devoted to meeting the exacting standards of its customers.

This excellence also allows access to industrial markets (wind turbines, aeronautics, automobile, etc.).

Data and key figures

- Founded: 2001
- CEO: Vincent Marsaudon
- Employees: 35
- Sales: €4.4 million in 2017
- References in competitive sailing: Official supplier to IMOCA, Banque Populaire, Sodebo, Macif, Gitana, Spindrift, Multi50, MOD70, Figaro 3...
- Location: LORIENT, Morbihan (56)

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www.lorima-carbon-mast.com/fr/index/



Nautix

Leading French Manufacture of Marine Paints



Copyright: Matthieu Taburet, Nautix

Bretagne Sailing Valley with its teams preparing for competition all year round is a wonderful testing ground for our paints and a very efficient incubator for innovation. The ferocious competition between world-class sailors represents more than just an obligation of quality, but an obligation of result.

Nautix develops, produces and sells a range of submarine protection products and decorative solutions for boats. Attentive to the needs of users and professionals, the company provides reliable and efficient solutions that guarantee long-lasting results. Mastery of the formulations and application techniques combined with a passion for the sea enables Nautix to support occasional pleasure boaters alongside the greatest skippers on all the oceans of the world.

Nautix is a recognised leader in technical and innovative paint for racing yachts. A few examples selected by the best teams and applied to the fastest, most prestigious boats: Maxi, Wally, Ultim', Imoca, Volvo...

- Carbon and composites protection and impregnation systems
- Adhesion systems over stainless steel and other metals
- "Glide" finishing coats for hulls and foils
- Transparent non-slip paints
- Fluorescent submarine and deck safety paints
- "Cool" paints for protecting composites from the sun (IR)
- Other custom solutions

Data and key figures

- Founded: 1980
- CEO: Maxime Delbury and Matthieu Taburet
- Employees: 25
- Sales: €380,000
- References in competitive sailing:
 - Ultim' Banque Populaire, Sodebo, Actual, IDEC...
 - IMOCA: SMA, PRB, Virbac Saint Michel, Hugo Boss ...
 - Volvo: Groupama, ABN Amro
 - Maxi: Wally
 - Class 40: Corum, Objectif Vendée 2020
 - Figaro Macif, CMB
 - Mini Transat
- Location: GUIDEL, Morbihan (56)

Equipment provided for the races: between 50 and 95%

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NKE Marine Electronics

Instruments and Autopilots for Competitive and Leisure Sailing

Copyright: Yvan Zedda



Innovation drives our development and helps us take our place on the market with major groups. Developing our business in the Bretagne Sailing Valley is a strength; closeness to race teams, to other companies working in the competitive field are factors of success.

For 30 years, NKE Marine Electronics has been developing, producing and marketing a range of instruments and autopilots for competitive yachts and offshore cruisers.

NKE's reputation is based on its strong commitment to technological innovation.

This has enabled NKE to remain at the forefront of the international sector, for its sensors fitted to Cup boats or for its autopilots fitted to most of the single-handed or crewed racing yachts.

The engineering department is constantly in research mode to offer efficient and robust solutions to Race Teams. One of the major avenues of development is the new, round-the-world Ultim' flying project.

Data and key figures

- Founded: 1984
- CEO: Paul Fraisse
- Employees: 15
- Sales: €2 M
- References in competitive sailing: SODEBO, Meragitée, Class Figaro, class 40, class MINI, Flotte IRC
- Location: Hennebont, Morbihan (56)

Awards won nationally and internationally

- Competitive sailing innovation award for the HR autopilot

Equipment provided for the races:

- 98 % class mini
- 77% Class 40
- 100% Class Figaro
- 35% Imoca
- 1 Ultim' SODEBO exclusive contract
- 94% IRC Transquadra fleet

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Competitive Sailing

Forthcoming Events in Brittany



Yacht Racing Forum

22 and 23 October in Lorient

Brittany will host the next Yacht Racing Forum, a world congress for the business and industry of sailing and yacht racing. Competitive sailing professionals will meet on 22nd and 23rd October in Lorient. For the regions and companies in the Bretagne Sailing Valley®, hosting this event is an opportunity to promote the leading-edge know-how and technologies developed in Brittany to the world at large. The dates of this event have been chosen to coincide with the start of the Route du Rhum a few days later in Saint-Malo. Attendees at the Yacht Racing Forum will be able to experience for themselves the excitement on the pontoons and see this floating showcase of technology.

Bringing together more than **300 international decision-makers** (organisers of world events, professional sailors, sponsors, technical suppliers, sailing clubs, boat builders, technology companies), the Yacht Racing Forum is the major, international professional event for developing the business of yacht racing.

An International Event in the Heart of Bretagne Sailing Valley®

In 2018, in the heart of the Bretagne Sailing Valley®, at the Palais des Congrès and the Eric Tabarly sailing museum in Lorient, the event will take place on **22nd and 23rd October 2018**. The event is organised by the agency MaxComm and has received the active support of Bretagne Développement Innovation and all the expertise of Eurolarge Innovation, dedicated to supporting competitive yacht racing and its network of companies. The whole Bretagne Sailing Valley© ecosystem has the support of major regional actors: [Région Bretagne](#), [Lorient Agglomération](#), [Quimper Cornouaille Développement](#), [Golfe du Morbihan- Vannes Agglomération](#) and the department of the [Morbihan](#).

Business Opportunities and a Voice for Breton Companies

This forum will be an opportunity for companies in the Bretagne Sailing Valley to promote their excellence and know-how, increase their visibility in some international markets and develop their business.

More than 30 companies from or based in Brittany will be making the most of this international tribune. In this context, a round table will be organised by the department of the Morbihan on 22nd October entitled "Morbihan a Model for Success in Competitive Sailing". Attending will be Thierry Verneuil, President of BIC World, Christophe Baudry, director of Lorient Grand large, Carole Bourlon, head of the Eurolarge Innovation programme, Tim Mourniac, talented young Morbihan skipper (world champion Nacra 15 Youth Sailing World Championship, Auckland 2016 and Alain Gautier, a skipper who has remained faithful to his native Morbihan department.

Bretagne Sailing Valley© Tour for Forum Participants on 24th October

The day after the Forum, a guided tour of companies in the Sailing Valley will be organised by the event's Breton partners: Quimper-Cornouaille Développement, Golfe du Morbihan Vannes Agglomération and Lorient Agglomération.

With three tours on offer, participants from all over the world will be able to discover a wide range of local companies specialising in competitive yacht racing.

www.yachtracingforum.com

[More information about the Bretagne Sailing Valley Tour](#)



Route du Rhum 2018

Departure: 4 November 2018 - Saint-Malo

Village opens: 24 October 2018, Saint-Malo.

40 years of the Route du Rhum in Saint-Malo!

An excellent sailing event, this single-handed transatlantic race has become one of France's favourite events over the years.

Since it was created by Michel Étévenon, an increasing number of enthusiastic amateur and professional skippers meet every 4 years at the foot of the ramparts of this Breton town.

For the 11th edition and the 40th anniversary of the race, the skippers will be moored on the pontoons from 24th October to 4th November 2018.

At the start, six categories of boats and 100 sailors will line up to write a new page in the history of this legendary race.

On Sunday 4th November at 2pm, they will set sail for Guadeloupe...

www.saint-malo.fr

www.routedurhum.com



Lorient Les Bermudes Lorient

Start Sunday 5th May 2019 at 1.02pm - Lorient

Village opens Friday 26th April 2019 - Lorient

6,000 miles - A Double Transatlantic Race - Crewed

Forty years ago, in 1979, the first edition of the Lorient Les Bermudes Lorient race set off for a return journey across the Atlantic. 40 pairs on the start line and an historic battle to the finish: just 5 minutes separated the 2 first competitors after 30 days at sea... the legend was born. Tabarly, Pajot, Riguidel, Gahinet, Gautier, Le Cam, Poupon or Arthaud were all winners of this mythical race.

40 years on, crews on the fastest racing yachts in the world, including the maxi trimarans in the Ultim' class will be lining up in Lorient to take their place in the legend and set a new reference record time over the 6,000 miles distance non-stop!

Lorient Les Bermudes Lorient

[Facebook](#)



The partners :



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