

VOLVO OCEAN RACE

ROUND THE WORLD 2008 - 2009

Race Committee Memorandum Memorandum Number 4

To All entries and potential entries
From Andy Hindley, Racing Director
Date 21st December 2007
Re Safety Equipment – Horseshoe life rings

Increase in number of life rings

As new and improved equipment comes on the market so we need to determine its application and use for the Volvo Ocean Race. One recently developed product is a self inflating horseshoe life ring. The life rings use life jacket actuators and gas bottles to facilitate inflation when they land in the water. They are stowed with two life rings in one small tubular canister. Each life ring unit is deployed separately and each can be thrown much further than a conventional life ring, so assisting the person in the water. They are also easier to get into, again assisting the person in the water.

Adding a two life ring canister to the stern of the boat will increase the number of man-overboard recovery aids by 66% for the addition of only 2.5kgs in sailing (non-measured) weight and the organising authority will now be providing each boat with a two life ring canister.

Inflatable life rings will be provided for testing during the safety training course.

The Notice of Race will be amended to reflect the addition of a two life ring canister and the equipment will be delivered early in the new year.

ENDS

Andy Hindley
Racing Director
Volvo Ocean Race