

# NEWS LETTER

JUNE 2012

# CAMPER

IN THE  
VOLVO OCEAN RACE  
2011-12



# TEAM NEWS

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2012

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Since the last newsletter our brave CAMPER crew has sailed another 5500 miles, some of which through treacherous conditions and completed another two legs of our Camper round the world adventure. Leg 7 took us from Miami, across the Atlantic, to Lisbon, while Leg 8 took us the relatively short leg to Lorient in southern Brittany but again our crew was tested to limit.

## LEG 7 – MIAMI TO LISBON



This was a 3,590 nautical mile transatlantic journey with the boats passing both Bermuda and the Azores on the way to the European mainland. Unpredictable weather systems resulted in many positional changes, and a rollercoaster ride with CAMPER going from second to last in a few hours when the boat's progress was stalled by a vicious cyclone called Alberto. But a clever tactical decision to head north and split from the fleet in the Gulf Stream paid rich dividends and CAMPER powered back to the front of the pack. It was to be a dramatic leg as Chuny Bermudez's quick reactions saved the boat from a catastrophic collision as he narrowly steered them away from a

surfacing whale. The fleet continued to shuffle places only to compress again in an area of light winds just before the final push into Lisbon. Abu Dhabi's lead was drastically reduced but they managed to cling on for a first leg win, finishing less than six minutes ahead of Groupama, while Puma came in third. It was to be a heartbreaking finish for CAMPER as, for the third time in a row, they battled to the line against their nemesis, Telefonica. But the current of the River Tagus delivered a cruel twist and CAMPER was pipped to fourth place metres from the finish line.





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## CAMPER IN LISBON

Lisbon put on a great event and it was one of the most successful stopovers of the race with tens of thousands of visitors coming through daily. A fantastic race village and the local population totally embraced the race, and after the trauma of arrival night, CAMPER quickly became the team of choice having won the hearts of local population and visitors alike. The 'pop up' Camper shop was packed with people wanting to get their hands on some official team kit and try the new Camper shoe collection.

The crew met hundreds of fans with poster signing sessions and took part in the competitions for fans to win a CAMPER family pack stuffed with everything from a team rucksack to t-shirts and hats for all the family. The team also joined forces with local radio RFM, delivering the competition of the day for the fans. Lisbon was most definitely regarded by the whole team as one of the best stops yet with people really getting behind the sport and the strong Camper fan base meant that there was a home crowd cheering the boys on at every opportunity.



## SALTY GETS A TRADITIONAL PORTUGUESE SHAVE

CAMPER trimmer Rob Salthouse experienced one of Lisbon's local traditions, when he stepped into a traditional barbers shop to receive a shave for the beard he had grown over the course of the Leg 7. "It takes quite a long time to sort out when you get in from a leg," he said. "I thought it would be a great chance to let a professional loose!"

So Rob, looking not unlike an unkempt hairy monster stepped into a local Cabeleireiro and treated himself to the 'full works'. A suave, coiffed and handsome gentleman stepped out into the Lisbon sunshine a few hours later. "It was great to see the local traditions and skills still being used on a day to day basis, you would struggle to find somewhere as authentic as this at home."





## CAMPER PARTY ON LAND AND ON THE WATER IN LISBON

Camper yet again hosted key clients and media in Lisbon over the InPort and Start weekend. On the Friday night a Welcome Dinner was held at Atira-te ao Rio and it proved to be a full-on adventure as guests had to leave on small boats from the beach to get to the

Brazilian-themed restaurant. On the Saturday, our guests were wined and dined at Bica do Sapato, a fantastic restaurant on the banks of the River Tagus that is owned by John Mal-



kovich and Catherine Deneuve. Our clients, wholesale guests and media also spent a day on the water watching the InPort Race on Saturday. This also meant that guests also had a fantastic view of the main tourist attractions of Lisbon as the race course took the fleet up river to the heart of the historic city centre. The accompanying fleet of support boats mean that our guests left Lisbon with a full-on Volvo Ocean Race experience!



## AND MORE ACTORS...

CAMPER definitely seems to attract thespian guests. Lisbon saw a clutch of actors join the boat for both the ProAm and in the In-Port Race. All of them enthused about their experience onboard! Amongst them were Filipe Duarte, Dalila Carmo, and Alexandre da Silva.



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## CREWS PUT TO THE TEST IN LEG 8



Despite being one of the shortest legs of the race at 1940 miles, Leg 8 proved that the length of the leg doesn't necessarily mean it's going to be an easy ride. The fleet faced storm force conditions with winds in excess of 40 knots for the final 1000 miles into Lorient France. Points and pride were on the line as the fleet punched hard into a massive low pressure system. Seamanship would be key in the treacherous conditions leading into the Bay of Biscay off the north-east coast of France. CAMPER hard pushed hard all the way to France, holding off the fleet and holding the boat together. As they approached the finish 200 miles from Lorient, CAMPER was caught in a battle with the French team Groupama for the lead.

Skipper Chris Nicholson was faced with a wave of water, which engulfed the boat and swept him clear off his feet, as he was flung back into Nick Burrige who then fell back into Rob Salthouse. All three were forced to cling on for dear life and it was the quick reactions of Adam Minoprio jumping onto the opposite wheel to bring the boat back under control as Nico, Nick and Salty scrambled back to their positions before setting off again at breakneck speed in over 30 knots of wind.

Over the course of this leg it became even clearer that the Volvo Ocean Race is all about finishing. There is a very fine balance between how hard to push the boat and crew, and safety. Some teams, like Telefonica, learnt the hard way but also showed that the race is still very open and until the last boat crosses the line in Galway, it is still anyone's game.



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## CAMPER SECURE SECOND AND MOVE BACK ONTO THE PODIUM

An elated CAMPER with Emirates Team New Zealand secured second place on Leg 8 of the Volvo Ocean Race, bringing them back into overall contention for a podium place as they move into third place in the race for the trophy.



## SPEEDY CAMPER

Once again, our team has won the IWC Schaffhausen Speed Record Challenge for the leg, posting a 24-hour run of 565 nautical miles on the 14th June in the heinous conditions in the Bay of Biscay. This also secures the overall fastest run in this edition of the race, with one leg remaining can CAMPER take home the overall speed record trophy?

"We knew on the transatlantic leg into Lisbon we had to have a good leg and we didn't, so on Leg 8 we knew we really, really had to do well. So this result is very pleasing and deserving for the crew.



## OUR WINNING SHORE CREW

The CAMPER shore crew have been our 'winners' since the start of the race. They have been through hell and high water, quite literally, to ensure that CAMPER is always ready and prepared for racing. From before the race started they have demonstrated pure team work. CAMPER always has the first base up and ready and we are always the first team packed up at the end of a stopover. Add to this the herculean effort they made to ensure that CAMPER left Puerto Montt in Chile as quickly as possible and you can soon see why they are winners our eyes.



## ON THE SEA AND IN THE AIR

Camper also flies, apart from the speed record set on leg 7 Lisbon to Lorient, Camper is also on a special limited edition Spanish stamp. A future piece of history that can reach any corner of the universe... by air.





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## LORIENT'S RICH MARITIME HISTORY

Lorient has a rich maritime history dating all the way back to the 1600s when King Louis XIV created a thriving military base there. Much of Lorient's port infrastructure was destroyed during World War II when the city was held by the Germans and suffered extreme bombing at the hands of the Allied Forces. The main targets for Allied planes were the German U-Boat pens, but the submarine base survived the barrage and to this day is open to the public as a tourist attraction. The majority of the rest of the city was destroyed and rebuilt in the 1950s. Lorient is bustling city full of stylish bars, cafes and restaurants and is famed for its fresh seafood, delicious crepes and local cider.

The French public has welcome the Volvo Ocean Race with open arms and no-one can doubt the enthusiasm of the local population for sailing and this race in particular.



## THE FINAL CHAPTER - LEG NINE – LORIENT TO GALWAY

The final leg is a 485 nautical-mile sprint (898 kilometres) from Lorient in France to Galway in Ireland. The course is mainly coastal, with the fleet first travelling north along the shores of western Brittany before crossing the English Channel. The six boats will then head up the south coast of Ireland before making the final dash up the west coast to the finish line in Galway.

Fastnet Rock, a small islet in the Atlantic Ocean and the most

southerly point of Ireland, and rounding mark for the eponymous Rolex Fastnet Race, will be the last landmark the sailors see before the finale. Although relatively short, the leg is potentially hazardous, with the fleet having to navigate through commercial shipping lanes and rocky outcrops, as well as a series of headlands and major tidal gates. The crews will also have to factor in the changeable weather conditions as they fight to the finish in Galway Bay.





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## CAMPER STILL IN THE FRAME

The Volvo Ocean Race trophy is still very much within CAMPER's grasp. Nico and the crew are 28 points behind overall leader Groupama with one short leg and two in-port races remaining. Five podium leg finishes have helped keep CAMPER in contention in what promises to be one of the most thrilling finales in the competition's 39-year history. So our team has absolutely everything to race for. A leg win is worth 30 points, 25 for second, 20 for third and so on, while an InPort race win is worth six points, five for second, four for third, and so on.

**COME ON CAMPER!**



## AN INTERNET SENSATION

CAMPER has scored two massive viral internet successes in as many months. The incredible footage of Chuy Bermudez swerving to avoid an enormous whale in the closing stages of the leg to Lisbon became an internet hit almost overnight featuring on every major online platform as well as the BBC, Fox Sports (USA), Globo (Brazil), Eurosport/Yahoo and Weibo (China).

No sooner had the 'sensation' died down, that two weeks later our superb Media Crew Hamish Hooper, sent back a second video showing Chris Nicholson being knocked down by a massive wave. Again the footage swept across the internet with coverage on BBC, Eurosport, Channel Seven (Australia), CCTV (China), Band (Brazil) and Canal 9 (ESP)



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## COMPETITION

To win a backpack, towel and CAMPER Volvo Ocean Race official sunglasses answer the following questions and send all answers to [competitions@camper.com](mailto:competitions@camper.com) - **Good Luck!**

1. What is the new 24hr speed record that CAMPER set on Leg 8?

- A) 564miles
- B) 565miles
- C) 566miles

2. How many miles will the boats sail during to complete leg 9?



## HOW TO FOLLOW THE PROJECT

Website: [www.camper.com/volvoceanrace](http://www.camper.com/volvoceanrace) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CamperwithEmiratesTeamNewZealand](http://www.facebook.com/CamperwithEmiratesTeamNewZealand)

Get regular updates on Facebook with videos, blogs and a whole bunch of pictures and stories updated daily. Join us and tell your friends!!! Let's make Facebook our official fan club

Twitter: CAMPERETNZ Instant news from the race course

## LATEST IMAGES

See all the new images from the crew at sea to the team on shore

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/camperinthevolvoceanrace/>

Check out the new Tumblr page

<http://camperinthevolvoceanrace.tumblr.com/>

## LATEST VIDEO

Our MCM Hamish Hooper brings us all the latest daily news as he shares the story from on board CAMPER YouTube:

[www.youtube.com/Camper](http://www.youtube.com/Camper)

## TRACK THE RACE

With update every three hours, you can track CAMPER's progress 24 hours a day, find out their latest position on the race course, what's going on with the weather and where the competition is <http://www.camper.com/en/volvo-ocean-race/the-race>

## SHOW YOU ARE A FAN!

Show your support for CAMPER by wearing the official team merchandise. A great range of t-shirts, polo shirts, jackets, fleeces, accessories and of course, the Ocean Race Collection, are all available from the e-shop at [camper.com](http://camper.com)

Send your messages of support to the team here <http://www.camper.com/en/support-team>