



LALOU ROUCAYROL
& ALEX PELLA
MULTI50 ARKEMA

TRANSAT JACQUES VABRE 2017



TEAM ARKEMA
LALOU MULTI





A DREAM PAIR FOR THE TRANSAT JACQUES VABRE

For his ninth participation in the Transat Jacques Vabre and third at the helm of the Multi50 Arkema, Lalou Roucayrol has high sporting hopes. To fulfil this desire for performance, he has recruited a top grade co-skipper, the Spanish all-rounder Alex Pella. Between Le Havre and Salvador de Bahia, Lalou and Alex, assisted from land by Karine Fauconnier, will give it their all to excel on board their trimaran bursting with innovations and now fitted with foils.

« This sporting line-up promises a great race and a top-level battle. This is the ninth time I will have taken part in the Transat Jacques Vabre, and it will be my third finish in Salvador de Bahia: I sort of know the place. I like this race. Racing as a pair is interesting from a human and sporting viewpoint, but also technically, as you can get the most out of your boat. Twelve months before the Route du Rhum, it will also be an opportunity to validate plenty of things on board. The Transat Jacques Vabre is not a race that represents my best achievements. But with Alex, we fully intend to reverse the trend! »

Lalou Roucayrol

THE TRANSAT JACQUES VABRE: A CLASSIC OF DOUBLE-HANDED OCEAN RACING, IN THE RUN-UP TO THE ROUTE DU RHUM...

Created in 1993, the Transat Jacques Vabre race takes place every other year, and this year marks its 13th edition. As usual, the competitors will sail from Le Havre, on Sunday 5 November. For the fifth time in the history of the race (after 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2007), the fleet will head for Salvador de Bahia, in Brazil, on a demanding, full and strategic 4,350 mile course.

LE HAVRE/SALVADOR DE BAHIA: A TOUGH COURSE

The first hurdle in the Transat Jacques Vabre will be sailing out of the English Channel. Powerful currents and the heavy traffic of cargo ships will require plenty of caution, especially as conditions in November can be rough in the area... The competitors will then tackle the Bay of Biscay, aiming for Cape Finisterre. This initial hurdle will be no mean feat in what are often trying seas. The sailing pairs will then sail on in the varying tradewinds, which will push them towards Madeira, the Canaries and Cape Verde. Quite early on in the race, they will need to set out the best way into the famous doldrums, located a few degrees north of the Equator. So dreaded by sailors, this zone is unstable, unforeseeable and crucial all at the same time. Violent squalls alternate with zones of dead calm. For the sailors, the challenge is to analyze in detail weather reports, observe cloud masses very closely, show plenty of patience, and hope for a little luck... The challenge is to sail away from this intertropical convergence zone as quickly as possible and therefore make the most of the south-eastern tradewinds to cover the remaining 850 miles before they reach the majestic bay of Salvador de Bahia.

A STRONG MULTI50 LINE-UP

For this 2017 edition, 42 pairs are expected to take part, representing four classes: Class40, IMOCA, Ultimes and, of course, Multi50. The Multi50 class has undergone a major change, and in 2016 took a key step by allowing foils in its specifications. Attractive and resolutely modern, this 50 ft multihull class appeals to highly professional crews, while encouraging financial accessibility allowing SMEs to take part in the top ocean races. So, the Transat Jacques Vabre 2017 promises to be fascinating with six Multi50 in competition. On Arkema, Lalou Roucayrol and Alex Pella will be competing in particular against the “fearsome” FenêtréA - Mix Buffet skippered by Erwan Le Roux (already a three-time winner of the event on a Multi50) and Vincent Riou. The other competing boats are: Réauté Chocolat (Armel Tripon/Vincent Barnaud), Ciela Village (Thierry Bouchard/Oliver Krauss), French Tech Rennes Saint-Malo (Gilles Lamiré/co-skipper to be advised), and Drekan Groupe (Eric Defert/co-skipper to be advised).

A portrait of Lalou Roucayrol, a middle-aged man with short dark hair and a light beard, smiling. He is wearing a red sailing jacket with "TEAM ARKEMA" and "LALOU MULT" visible on the collar. The background is a bright, slightly hazy sky.

LALOU ROUCAYROL, A DETERMINED AND PIONEERING SKIPPER

Nationality: French
Age: 53 years old
(born in Nantes on 9 July 1964)
Lives in Verdon sur Mer,
Married

2017
3rd in Record SNSM
3rd in Armen Race
2nd in Grand Prix Guyader

2016
2nd in The Transat Bakerly
1st in Drheam cup
1st in Transat Québec - Saint-Malo
1st in Trophée Prince de Bretagne Sud Goëlo

2015
3rd in Transat Jacques Vabre
2nd in Grand Prix des Canaries

2014
2nd in Route du Rhum - Destination Guadeloupe (Multi50)

2013
ABD Transat Jacques Vabre
1st in Route des Princes

2010
2nd in Route du Rhum
4th in Trophée de Fécamp

2009
3rd in Transat Jacques Vabre
4th in Vendée Saint-Petersburg
2nd record SNSM

2008
1st record SNSM
3rd in Trophée Jean Stalaven Côtes d'Armor

2007
4th in Transat Jacques Vabre

2006
Record holder for distance covered with crew:
597.6 miles in 24hrs on Médiatis Aquitaine

Lalou Roucayrol lives his projects with overwhelming passion, thorough commitment, and a fierce desire to innovate in order to draw the best out of his sailing craft. If the skipper of the Multi50 Arkema is coming back to the Transat Jacques Vabre for the ninth time, it is for winning!

Lalou was born in Nantes and grew up in the Médoc region when he discovered sailing, which his father, an officer in the merchant navy, introduced him to. Attracted by the open sea, he competed in his very first solo transatlantic race aged 21: the Mini Transat 1985, which he completed in an honorable 8th place.

Not only was he deeply attracted to adventure and challenge, but he also admired multihulls. From the unlikely proa of his first races in 1990, to the latest Multi50 Arkema, not to mention the 60 ft ORMA Banque Populaire in between, Lalou Roucayrol gets off the beaten track to bring an extra dimension to his projects: innovation.

Able to sail across storms with dogged energy, the Aquitaine-born skipper has endured a number of setbacks but always recovered. While winning the Route des Princes in 2013 and the Québec - Saint Malo in 2016, he also claimed three podium places in the Route du Rhum in 2002, 2010 and 2014 (the latter on board the Multi50 Arkema) and aspires to clinch victory in this legendary race, which he will enter again in 2018. He already has a rich history with the Transat Jacques Vabre. In his eight previous races, Lalou had endured harsh blows (in particular capsizing in 2013) but twice has also claimed a podium place (3rd in 2009 and 2015 in Multi 50). All he needs now is winning!

An experienced, bold and determined sailor, Lalou Roucayrol has spent his life sailing the oceans on ever more competitive crafts, in pursuit of ever greater challenges. Passionate about innovation, looking for creation and development, the Arkema skipper is a genuine forerunner in the world of ocean racing. This he again showed emphatically when he launched the construction of a Mini 6.50 bursting with innovations, built from a recyclable material, which his *protégé* Quentin Vlamynck will skipper in the Mini-Transat La Boulangère 2017.



ALEX PELLA, THE SPANISH ALL-ROUNDER

Nationality: Spanish
Age: 44 years old (born in Barcelona on
2 November 1972)
Lives in Dénia, Alicante in Spain,
with his partner

2017
Trophée Jules-Verne, all-time record in round-the-world sailing race
in 40d 23h 30m 30s 5, on Trimaran IDEC
Record of Southern Indian Ocean in 5d 21h 7min 45s, on Trimaran IDEC
Record of Southern Pacific Ocean in 7d 21h 13m 31s, on Trimaran IDEC
Record of Equator to Equator in 29d 9h 10m 55s, on Trimaran IDEC

2015
Record of Indian Ocean in 6j 23h 4m, on Trimaran IDEC,
Record of Round Ireland race in 40h 51m 57s,
on "MOD70 Musandam-Oman Sail"
1st in Sailing Arabia - The Tour, on "EFG Bank (Monaco)"

2014
1st in Route du Rhum, on "Tales II"

2013
2nd in Transat Jacques Vabre, on "Tales II"

2012
4th in Round Europe race, Europa Warm UP, on "Groupe Bel"

2011
4th in Barcelona World Race, on "Estrella Damm"

When he recruited Alex Pella following Karine Fauconnier's injury, Lalou Roucayrol gained the services of a super-sub. A highly experienced all-rounder, Alex has an impressive nautical CV and a great track record, including three round-the-world voyages. A joint holder of the Trophée Jules Verne, he is one of the six fastest men around the world.

Alex Pella loves sailing and it is clear for everyone to see! With a permanent smile on his face, the Spanish sailor has a friendly and cheerful nature, and an enthusiasm that delights everyone who meets him. At sea, Alex tends to be a stubborn, tough guy who never gives up. And he has an impressive ability to skipper boats – of all types – to the top of their potential, while keeping a cool head and even temper.

Alex Pella has an eclectic nautical CV. First a shore manager for boats like Team Adventure for The Race 2000, he embarked rather late on a life of competition, and his early days were promising: in 2003, he claimed a podium place in the Mini Transat. Two years later he confirmed his talent by completing this same race in 2nd place, winning also the Atlantic crossing between Lanzarote and Salvador de Bahia.

An accomplished sailor and a seasoned shore manager, Alex Pella sails on various crafts, one or several hulls, often successfully. On the 60 ft IMOCA circuit, the monohulls of Vendée Globe, in 2010 he set a new record between New York and Barcelona, before entering the Barcelona World Race 2010-2011, the double-handed round-the-world race, which he completed after 98 days at sea, in 4th position alongside Pepe Ribes. His achievements in Class40 are even better, claiming 2nd place in the Transat Jacques Vabre 2013 (with Pablo Santurde).

For his first participation in the Route du Rhum, he achieved a masterstroke when he won this legendary transatlantic race, improving on the Class40 record of the event as he did so.

Highly experienced in multihulls, he was asked by Francis Joyon to join the crew of IDEC Sport, to tackle the equally legendary Trophée Jules Verne, the all-time record in round-the-work sailing. On 26 January 2017, at their third attempt, Joyon and his crew crossed the finish line in a record 40 days 23 hours 30 minutes and 30 seconds. That day, Alex Pella had definitely made it to the big league.

“ I first met Alex during the Route du Rhum 2014 and liked him straight away. Since then, I have been following his path. I like the guy, his friendly, cheerful nature. Alex Pella is an international sailor with an eclectic profile. At sea, he is stubborn, hardworking, he doesn't count the blows, and skippers his boat very well. He's a very accomplished sailor who sails a lot on different crafts. ”

Lalou Roucayrol



KARINE FAUCONNIER, THE PERFORMANCE ASSET

Nationality: French
Age: 45 years old
(born in La Rochelle on 11 March 1972)
Lives in Locmiquelic,
Single

2016	1 st in Transat Québec - Saint-Malo
2009	1 st in Sables-Horta-Les Sables (Class 40 Telecom Italia) 1 st in Transmanche (Class 40 Telecom Italia) 9 th in Challenge Julius Baer (D35 Ladycat)
2008	1 st in Troféo de la Reina 2 nd in Copa des Rey (GP42 Near Miss) 2 nd in Open de Rolle (D35 Ladycat)
2007	1 st in Transat Jacques Vabre (Multi 50' Whaou!) 9 th in Challenge Julius Baer (D35 Ladycat) 5 th in Bol d'Or (D35 Ladycat)
2005	Winner of Qatar Oryx Quest round-the world race (Cata Doha - Ex Club Med)
2004	1 st in Québec - Saint-Malo (Trimaran 60' Sergio Tacchini) 1 st in Fécamp GP 5 th in The Transat (Trimaran 60' Sergio Tacchini) 2 nd in Marseille, Corsica and La Trinité sur Mer GP
2003	1 st in Italy GP 3 rd in ORMA World Championship 3 rd in Transat Jacques Vabre (Trimaran 60' Sergio Tacchini) 2 nd in Fécamp GP
2002	Abandon in Route du Rhum 5 th in Fécamp GP 2 nd in Roma per Due
2001	Abandon in Transat Jacques Vabre 7 th in Belgium GP (Trimaran 60' Sergio Tacchini)
1996 - 2000	Figaro Circuit

Originally Karine Fauconnier was due to take part in the Transat Jacques Vabre 2017 alongside Lalou Roucayrol. But after suffering an injury during a training session on the Multi 50 Arkema in July this year, she will not be able to fulfil this role. Karine will nevertheless remain actively involved in the project, looking after the routing and the weather strategy from land.

An experienced yachtswoman, Karine Fauconnier joined Team Arkema Lalou Multi in 2016. She first got involved with the routing for Lalou Roucayrol on The Transat (Plymouth - New York), working with Eric Mas. Karine then sailed on board the Multi50 in the Transat Québec - Saint Malo, bringing her experience of ocean racing on the tactical and strategy side. This initial experience was a great success as the Arkema crew won the event.

In preparation for the Transat Jacques Vabre, Karine was in charge of performance. *"I was looking after compiling the data, the speed polars, the selects (to work out which sails should go up in such and such conditions)... In brief, all the data that enable us to see whether we are getting 100% out of the boat's potential at various paces, based on the strength of the wind", she explains. "I have also worked a lot on the condition of the sea and the impact on the speed of the boat. Multi50 boats are fast but not very big, so they endure very violent impacts when seas are rough. The state of the sea is a major data that should be taken into account. And when I was on board, I looked after the routing and the strategy, with an enduring obsession for performance. I would not leave Lalou alone!"*

Despite her injury, Karine Fauconnier remains an integral part of the Team with a key role as she will be in charge, with Eric Mas, of routing and weather strategy from land throughout the Transat Jacques Vabre. Karine Fauconnier: *"My goal is for our team to win, with or without me on board. I'll do my utmost in other ways, I mean by helping the new twosome to perform by guiding them to keep on course and giving them advice from land. I love this role. It's a fine way to continue the story. I'm lucky to have had experience on the boat, to have won with it already, to know Lalou well and be familiar with the course which has no secret for me. So it's now a threesome we'll have to contend with."*

« Karine joined us last year. She is highly experienced in ocean racing and has no problem being part of a team. We have known each other for a long time, as she had already joined me on board my boat at the time of her ORMA project. I like the way she operates and her charisma. I'm pleased she will stay with our team despite her injury. We have been working with her for two years, and are happy with her work. Keeping her in the Team helps ease this stroke of bad luck. »

Lalou Roucayrol



THE MULTI50 ARKEMA, AN EVER IMPROVING ULTRA COMPETITIVE TRIMARAN

Built in the heart of the Médoc region in 2012, the Multi50 Arkema is the very representation of Lalou's commitment to scheduling his projects. Built to win the Route du Rhum, as its skipper points out, this trimaran with a radical design was developed from Arkema innovations. Firstly, it was completely built using the "one-shot" epoxy infusion method, a genuine set of skills for the Lalou Multi team. The cockpit glazing and the helmsman's protective bubbles are fitted with Altuglas® ShieldUp sheeting, which helps significantly improve visibility compared to traditional glass, while ensuring exceptional light weight and impact resistance. Another specific feature of the boat is the fact that it was assembled with Bostik glue joints, which deliver an optimum flexibility – sturdiness – weight ratio.

Sturdy, elegant and extremely competitive - witness its victory in the Route des Princes in 2013 and its 2nd place in the Route du Rhum 2014 -, this boat evolves continuously. The most visible recent innovation is unquestionably the addition of foils, replacing traditional keels, made possible by the new specifications of the Multi50 class. These highly fashionable bearer appendages are formidably effective, and offer significant extra performance, to the delight of Lalou Roucaïrol who did not need much convincing to step into the breach.

Other innovations were approved, with yet more in the pipeline. "Our guiding principle is to always explore new avenues, and we are constantly making improvements to the boat", stresses the Arkema skipper. "We were the first, for example, to develop and then design, with sailmakers Incidences, a full set of sails made of DFi®. We have also developed new rudder profiles. We are currently working on a pilot prototype, a very major evolution with the Route du Rhum in mind, which is a solo race."



ARKEMA AND TEAM LALOU MULTI: PRODUCTIVE ALCHEMY

Whether for the Mini 6.50 or the Multi50, which is constantly being improved, Arkema and Team Lalou Multi are constantly bringing out innovations in ocean racing in which they have been inspiring great impetus since they began working together in 2012. With composite materials, adhesives, materials for new energies, etc., the innovations developed by the specialty chemicals manufacturer in these areas were made available to the Aquitaine-born skipper, always ready to test them in his projects. It is these exchanges between an innovative group and a daring skipper that have given rise both to amazing research and development laboratories and to formidable racing machines custom-designed to win.

The construction of a revolutionary Mini 6.50 built from a recyclable material was made possible by this special relationship between the Lalou Multi team and their partner Arkema, who share the same values of transmission of knowledge, innovation and performance.

Meanwhile, a genuine concrete realization of the know-how of Arkema teams in terms of innovation, the Multi50 Arkema trimaran, designed for performance, continues to be an ever evolving laboratory. In close collaboration with Lalou Roucayrol, new technologies are regularly fitted on the boat.

ARKEMA
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

 **Bostik**
smart adhesives



FOILS IN THE ARKEMA FLEET

Foils are currently fashionable, on multihulls and on monohulls, as these bearer appendages made their appearance on the IMOCA 60', the monohulls of Vendée Globe. The two boats of Team Arkema Lalou Multi could not let this major innovation go which is revolutionizing the world of ocean racing.

Foils are those bearer appendages which allow the boat to "fly" or at least reduce the wetted surface area, and therefore the drag, thanks to their lifting power. As it sails in a more airborne mode, a boat fitted with foils achieves significantly more speed.

NEW BEHAVIOR FOR THE MULTI50 ARKEMA, WITH PLENTY OF BENEFITS AND A FEW TWEAKS

Lalou Roucayrol is particularly enthusiastic when he talks about the foils that are now fitted on his Multi50. And for good reason. He confirms that these appendages enable him to increase his speed by 4 to 10 knots depending on the strength of the wind and the condition of the sea! *"We do 30 knots very regularly. In ideal conditions, strong wind and calm sea, we reach peaks of 40 knots, if not more! The boat is even more fun than before"*, Lalou explains. *"The Arkema is also sharper and more responsive, and so even more demanding physically and mentally as you constantly have to be on the look-out to control it. The faster you go, the higher your stress level. In strong winds, it gets tense. We have made a lot of progress but we still have work to do to control the boat even better at high speed. At the same time, the foils afford extra safety: as they are pushing hard, the bows lift out of the water and you sail more smoothly than before, except upwind."*

More generally, the addition of foils has helped modernize the Multi50 fleet and relaunch the class, which now attracts big names like Vincent Riou, winner of the Vendée Globe 2004-2005. While the line-up of the Transat Jacques Vabre 2017 is already high quality, the line-up of the *Route du Rhum* 2018 promises to be quite outstanding.

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 @TeamArkema

PRESS CONTACT

Marie-Astrid Parendeau
Tel. +33(0)6 24 53 52 41
marieastrid.parendeau@gmail.com

photos & conception : Vincent Olivaud

