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Press Information

10 May 2006

## **BMW ORACLE Racing Ready for 2006 Season to Start**

Team to Debut New Boat USA 87 at Louis Vuitton Acts 10 and 11 in Valencia

**Valencia, Spain.** BMW ORACLE Racing will be giving their best effort to stay at the top of the Challenger ranking as they face 11 other America's Cup teams starting Thursday 11 May in Valencia for the first of three Louis Vuitton Acts this year. This will be the first America's Cup Class regatta for the team's innovative new race yacht USA 87.

"The goals for the 2006 season remain the same: learn as much as we can about our boat and the other teams, and remain at the top of the Challenger ranking. The competition will be tough, and we do not expect to get across the finish line first in every race we sail," BMW ORACLE Racing CEO and Skipper Chris Dickson said. "We are pleased with where we are and where we are going. However we can not be complacent and we can not stand still. We grow, develop and try to improve every day as we focus on our long-term goal of winning the America's Cup in 2007."

Dickson is pleased with the early performance of USA 87. "We probably have the most innovative ACC boat designed and built to date. With BMW engineering and structural analysis from the auto industry, the hull is lighter and stiffer. We are testing a variety of configurations with new appendages and new rig technology. We are still tweaking USA 87 and learning how to get full potential out of our new yacht but we are ready to go racing."

BMW ORACLE Racing has been race training both in-house with USA 76 and against other Challengers as much as weather has allowed in the past few weeks in Valencia. The team is now looking forward to the first official America's Cup Class racing since last October in Trapani, Italy, where BMW ORACLE Racing finished the 2005 racing season as the top-ranked Challenger. Valencia Louis Vuitton Act 10, a match racing event pairing each team against the other 11 opponents in a single round robin, begins Thursday 11 May. Valencia Louis Vuitton Act 11, a fleet racing event featuring all 12 teams racing together on one course, starts Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May. The race results count toward the 2007 Louis Vuitton Cup Challenger Selection Races for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup.

Press Information

10 May 2006

## **Word by Word: Chris Dickson**

The CEO and Skipper of BMW ORACLE Racing before the start of the season in Valencia

### **What are the performance expectations for BMW ORACLE Racing in the 2006 racing season?**

Dickson: The goals for the 2006 season remain the same: learn as much as we can about our boat and the other teams, and remain at the top of the Challenger ranking. The competition will be tough, and we do not expect to get across the finish line first in every race we sail. We are pleased with where we are and where we are going. However we can not be complacent and we can not stand still. We grow, develop and try to improve every day as we focus on our long-term goal of winning the America's Cup in 2007. We are pleased with the early performance of USA 87. We probably have the most innovative ACC boat designed and built to date. With BMW engineering and structural analysis from the auto industry, the hull is lighter and stiffer. We are testing a variety of configurations with new appendages and new rig technology. We are still tweaking USA 87 and learning how to get full potential out of her but we are ready to go racing.

### **How relevant is the technological input the automotive group BMW provided over the past year?**

Dickson: This is something all those concerned, whether on board, in the design or boatbuilding team, agree on – the engineers of BMW are doing an excellent job. The optimization of these high-tech America's Cup yachts is an ongoing process. In this context, we very much benefit from the competence of BMW. In addition, I find it very exciting to see that some of the knowledge gained with a view to sailing is also beneficial to the automotive development of BMW as well as the Formula 1. This is a classic win-win situation.

### **Team owner Larry Ellison once said: There is no second at the America's Cup. The runner-up is merely the first to lose. Pressure or obligation for your crew?**

Dickson: "The only pressure on this team is the pressure we all put on ourselves to succeed. We have an experienced team of professionals and the goal is the same: to win the America's Cup next year.

Background Information

27 March 2006

## **Word by Word: Ian Burns**

A conversation with the BMW ORACLE Racing Design Coordinator

### **In 2007, the key to success in Valencia...**

... is to provide our sailing team with the best platform to take into battle: faster, more maneuverable, better acceleration than our competitors have. We are fortunate to have the best people in most areas contributing not only the know-how and expertise but the teamwork and passion needed to achieve the mutual goal of winning the America's Cup.

### **Thomas Hahn, Ingo Raasch, Christoph Erbelding and Claus Polap – four specialist engineers from BMW, are integrated in the design team – they have done a great job in...**

... providing our design team a whole new vista of engineering analysis and research courtesy of the car manufacturing world. They have impacted not only the structure of the boat but many other areas where the technical excellence of BMW has flowed into our designs. Of course, the best part was how well they fit into our team environment.

### **The most significant differences in the developments of the new America's Cup yachts related to the weather in New Zealand and now Spain are ...**

... the vicissitudes of the weather. For example, the weather in New Zealand is quite unique. You often get 30 knots and 3 knots. Often in the same day. Although the average is around 14 knots – it rarely blows it! And when it gets windy – it gets rough – in a North Easterly. Valencia is much more typical of Mediterranean conditions with a fairly regular seabreeze averaging 12-15 knots. Boats need to take advantage of this consistency of wind and this is dramatically different from New Zealand.

### **In Version 5 of the applicable America's Cup rules...**

... the boats always ended up in the same part of the rule – similar length, sail area and weight. Nothing has really changed. The America's Cup boats win on the 'unmeasured' advantage in horsepower and low drag.

Background Information

27 March 2006

## **Word by word: Prof. Dr. Raymond Freymann**

A conversation with the Director of BMW Group Research and Technology department

### **Today's events in Valencia mark a milestone in the campaign of BMW ORACLE Racing because...**

... this yacht opens the door for a new era of lightweight design in the field of high-performance yachtbuilding.

### **For BMW, the biggest challenge concerning the construction of the new yacht hull for the USA-87...**

... consisted of defining unambiguous and reliable specifications as a basis for the structural lightweight design of the yacht in consideration of the highest requirements in terms of rigidity and weight.

### **The cooperation between Seattle, Valencia, Munich and Eisenach was outstanding thanks to...**

... the quick decision-making processes, the flexibility of the decision makers and, last but not least, the excellent team spirit of all those involved.

### **The automotive group BMW has taken on a leading role in professional yacht racing because ...**

... we have been able to transfer practically all the lightweight design know-how we have gained in the automotive sector to the field of yachtbuilding.

### **The America's Cup is the undisputed Formula 1 of sailing because...**

... the technical requirements concerning the construction of the yachts are so incredibly challenging. If you don't take it to the limit, you will have lost the Cup before it has even started.

Background Information

27 March 2006

## **Fact Sheet BMW ORACLE Racing**

Team Name	BMW ORACLE Racing
Yacht Club	Golden Gate Yacht Club, San Francisco, CA, USA
CEO & Skipper	Chris Dickson
Afterguard	Rod Dawson, Eric Doyle, Larry Ellison, Peter Isler, Sten Mohr, Bertrand Pacé, Guillermo Parada, Ed Smyth
Design	BMW ORACLE Racing Design Team Design Co-ordinator Ian Burns
Boat Construction	BMW ORACLE Racing Boat Construction Team Managers: Mark Turner, Tim Smyth, Mark Somerville
Crew	17 plus one observer
Sail Numbers	USA 87, USA 76, USA 71
Nationalities in the team	16 nations: Argentina, Austria, Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, USA
Partner	BMW, ORACLE
Main Sponsor	Allianz
Associate Sponsor	Girard-Perregaux, NETSUITE
Technology Partners	Henri Lloyd, Network Appliance
Official Suppliers	Parker Hannifin Corporation, PTC, NetDEAS, PWS Motion Control, CD-adapco, Moet & Chandon, Gleistein Ropes, Tecno, ANSYS, Beltone, Samsung

## Background Information

27 March 2006

### **Facts & Figures USA 87**

Boat Construction Team	BMW ORACLE Racing Boat Construction Team Managers: Mark Turner, Tim Smyth, Mark Somerville
Construction site	BMW ORACLE Racing Boatbuilding Team, Anacortes, WA, USA
Construction of the boat	30,000 man hours
Development of the boat	1,000 hours of full-scale two-boat testing
Boat's hull length	24 metres
Boat's hull width	4 metres
Boat's hull weight	2 tonnes
Boat's keel weight	19 tonnes
Boat's mast height	33 metres
Maximum area of mainsail	218 Square metres
Maximum area of headsail	150 Square metres
Maximum area of spinnaker	500 Square metres
Weight of the crew	Max. 1570 kg (incl. 18 <sup>th</sup> man)

## Background Information

27 March 2006

### **BMW ORACLE Racing – Milestones**

27 March 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christening of the new America's Cup Class Yacht, USA 87</li><li>• Opening of the new Team Base</li><li>• Launch of the new Merchandising Collection 2006</li></ul>
28 February 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USA 87, the new BMW ORACLE Racing high-tech yacht, arrives to Valencia</li></ul>
07 – 09 October 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top Challenger in Louis Vuitton Ranking</li><li>• BMW ORACLE Racing places 2<sup>nd</sup> at Trapani Louis Vuitton Act 9, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Fleet Racing)</li><li>• Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place for 2005 ACC Season Championship</li></ul>
29 September – 04 October 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top Challenger in Louis Vuitton Ranking</li><li>• BMW ORACLE Racing places 4<sup>th</sup> at Trapani Louis Vuitton Act 8, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Match Racing)</li><li>• Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place for 2005 ACC Season Championship</li></ul>
02 – 04 September 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top Challenger in Louis Vuitton Ranking</li><li>• BMW ORACLE Racing places 2<sup>nd</sup> at Malmö-Skåne Louis Vuitton Act 7, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Fleet Racing)</li><li>• Overall 2<sup>nd</sup> place for 2005 ACC Season Championship</li></ul>
25 – 30 August 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BMW ORACLE Racing places 2<sup>nd</sup> at Malmö-Skåne Louis Vuitton Act 6, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Match Racing)</li><li>• Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place for 2005 ACC Season Championship</li></ul>

24 – 26 June 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW ORACLE Racing places 4<sup>th</sup> at Valencia Louis Vuitton Act 5, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Fleet Racing)</li> <li>Overall 4<sup>th</sup> place for 2005 ACC Season Championship</li> </ul>
16 – 21 June 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW ORACLE Racing places 3<sup>rd</sup> at Valencia Louis Vuitton Act 4, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Match Racing)</li> </ul>
07 March 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW ORACLE Racing first team to start 2005 two-boat testing in Valencia with Version 5 boats</li> </ul>
14 – 17 October 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW ORACLE Racing places 3<sup>rd</sup> at Valencia Louis Vuitton Act 3, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup (Fleet Racing)</li> <li>Overall 2<sup>nd</sup> place in ACC Season Championship 2004</li> </ul>
05 – 12 October 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW ORACLE Racing places 3<sup>rd</sup> at Valencia Louis Vuitton Act 2, Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup in Valencia (Match Racing)</li> </ul>
05 – 11 September 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victory at Marseille Louis Vuitton Act 1, First Pre-Regatta for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup</li> </ul>
26 June 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW ORACLE Racing wins UBS Trophy in Newport, RI, USA, defeating America's Cup Defender Alinghi</li> </ul>
26 May 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ORACLE BMW Racing becomes BMW ORACLE Racing</li> </ul>
April 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW and ORACLE Racing sign new contract for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup in Valencia</li> </ul>
21 September 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victory over America's Cup Defender Alinghi at the Moët Cup in San Francisco</li> </ul>
March 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ORACLE BMW Racing becomes Challenger of Record for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup.</li> </ul>
19 January 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ORACLE BMW Racing finishes second to Alinghi in Louis Vuitton Cup Finals</li> </ul>
01 October 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start of Louis Vuitton Cup</li> </ul>
12 July 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioning of USA-71 and USA-76 in Auckland, New Zealand</li> </ul>

08 July 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMW and ORACLE Racing announce relationship</li> </ul>
27 April 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Team becomes Official Challenger, representing Golden Gate YC, San Francisco, USA, for 2003 America's Cup</li> </ul>
May 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Team ORACLE Racing founded by Larry Ellison</li> </ul>

## Background Information

10 May 2006

# **BMW ORACLE Racing Team**

## Portraits of the Sailors



**Baker, Ian**

Function: Grinder  
Date of birth: 19.04.1974  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 19

He knows what it takes to build strength for his role as a grinder. When he started sailing in the demanding Olympic Finn class at the age of nineteen, he put on 20kgs in 9 months. The three-time winner of New Zealand's national Finn championships, was a member of Team New Zealand's campaign in 2003.



**Blanchfield, David**

Function: Pitman  
Date of birth: 29.12.1967  
Nationality: AUS  
Team Number: 70

"Rat", as everyone calls him, has always lived around sailboats as he grew up in the harbour of Sydney. He has competed in four America's Cups (1992 - Challenge Australia, 1995 - Sydney 95, 2000 - Abracadabra 2000, 2001-2003 Prada Challenge). He has no less than 14 editions of the Sydney-Hobart and three Admiral's Cups and one Volvo Ocean Race (2001-News Corp).



**Bradford, Mark**

Function: Traveller  
Date of birth: 08.02.1971  
Nationality: AUS  
Team Number: 21

Bradford campaigned in the 470 class for the Barcelona and Atlanta Olympics. In 1996, he started a sail loft in his home town of Brisbane which later became North Sails Brisbane. He also dominated the Australian/ New Zealand Etchells circuit culminating in a second place in the 2002 worlds and was ranked fourth in the world for three years through 2004. He was invited to join BMW ORACLE racing after winning the New Zealand Etchells Championship with Dennis Conner and Joe Allen in 2003.



**Brooke, David**

Function: Mastman  
Date of birth: 09.03.1965  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 10

Brooke has sailed three America's Cups - on NZL20 in 1992, Dickson's TAG Heuer in 1995 and ORACLE BMW Racing in 2002-03. He has won several races, e.g. the Admiral's Cup, the Kenwood Cup, and a Sydney-Hobart as well as the Whitbread Round the World race with New Zealand Endeavour (1993-94). Aside from racing, he has skippered a super yacht around the world and has a passion for refurbishing old boats.

**Clarke, Stu**

Position: Aft Grind/Pit  
Assist  
Date of birth: 31.07.1972  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 31

Clarke discovered his passion for competitive sports early in life and it has stayed with him ever since. He first competed with ORACLE BMW Racing in the 2003 America's Cup campaign, and sailed for AmericaOne three years earlier.

**Clarkson, Sean**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 27.11.1969  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 9

In sailing circles, he seems to have done it all - he won the 1993 Whitbread Round The World Race, chalked up four America's Cup campaigns, competed in an Olympics and collected sailing titles around the globe.

**Crawford, Scott**

Function: Grinder  
Date of birth: 03.04.1973  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 8

Crawford is a more than capable grinder on board an America's Cup boat, but his main role is to make sure those around him are in top physical shape. The New Zealander specialises as a strength and conditioning coach, and filled that role at the OneWorld syndicate in the Louis Vuitton Cup 2002.

**Cressant, Julien**

Position: Mastman  
Date of birth: 16.08.1973  
Nationality: FRA  
Team Number: 3

His motto: "Always try to achieve your dream and push hard for it." His dream is to win the America's Cup. A successful multihull sailor - his achievements include the 24-hour record - Cressant competed with French AC challenges twice. In 2007, he hopes to finally achieve his dream with BMW ORACLE Racing.

**Daniel, Rodney**

Position: Aft Grind/Pit  
Assist  
Date of birth: 30.05.1972  
Nationality: AUS  
Team Number: 72

Daniel believes good teamwork is the key to success. He has shown just how good a team player he is on several occasions. In 1996 he broke the 22-year-old Sydney-Hobart record, and has gained line honours in the offshore race four times. This is Daniel's third America's Cup campaign.

**Dawson, Rod**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 05.02.1969  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 88

In his second America's Cup campaign, Dawson is part of the weather team and is also an accomplished match racing sailor. While his main responsibility is with the weather team, Dawson is often found on board one of the race yachts during two-boat testing. Dawson, with fellow team member Kazuhiko Sofuku, is a two-time Swedish Match Tour World Champion.

**Dickson, Chris**

Function: CEO/Skipper  
Date of birth: 03.11.1961  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 11

Dickson counts among the most experienced in the BMW ORACLE Racing team. At 24, he was at the helm of the first New Zealand yacht (KZ-7) to reach the challenger's final of the America's Cup. Since he became three-times Match Racing world champion and five-times Maxi Yacht world champion.

**Doyle, Eric**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 04.04.1968  
Nationality: USA  
Team Number: 14

Doyle first raced for the Cup in 2000, as mainsail trimmer on board Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes. He returned to Auckland for the 2002 Louis Vuitton Cup as strategist for ORACLE BMW Racing. He is an accomplished Star sailor, winning the North Americans and the Worlds in 1999.

**Drennan, Noel**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 18.11.1960  
Nationality: IRE  
Team Number: 63

Drennan has America's Cup and round-the-world experience - as a trimmer/helmsman on the winning illbruck yacht in the 2001-02 Volvo Ocean Race, and two Cup campaigns with Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes (2000/03). Being regarded as one of the best sailmakers, he is also one of the world's top Etchells sailors.

**Ellison, Larry**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 26.08.1944  
Nationality: USA  
Team Number: 17

With years of top-level international yachting competition behind him, Ellison's Sayonara won the Maxi World Championships three times. Ellison founded the ORACLE BMW Racing team for the 2003 America's Cup. A member of the afterguard, Ellison's team earned a berth as Louis Vuitton Cup Finalist and then became the Challenger of Record for the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup. As helmsman, Ellison won the Owner Driver Series of the Moet Cup in 2003 and the UBS Trophy in 2004.

**Gale, Jamie**

Function: Pitman  
Date of birth: 25.11.1971  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 12

He was a sailing team member of Team New Zealand when they clinched the historic victory off Point Loma in 1995. After that he has sailed the 1999 Louis Vuitton Cup and the Olympic Games. One of the highlights of Gale's career so far has been winning the Volvo Ocean Race as mastman on board illbruck in 2002.

**Halcrow, Ross**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 17.11.1966  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 4

Halcrow is considered one of the best sail trimmers and was part of the Team New Zealand which won the America's Cup in 1995. He gained further sailing reputation as part of the illbruck Challenge crew which won the 2001-02 Volvo Ocean Race and is winner of five World Championships. He has been involved in the America's Cup for 16 years.

**Hurst, Zachary**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 19.10.1977  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 25

Hurst is a professional sailmaker and was trimmer with Team New Zealand's America's Cup campaign 2003. The young yachtsman's passion is Match Racing and is often competing on the World Match Racing Tour.

**Isler, Peter**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 31.05.1955  
Nationality: USA  
Team Number: 55

Isler has been involved in every America's Cup since winning it as navigator aboard Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes in Australia in 1987. He has sailed in four Cup campaigns – all in the afterguard aboard Stars & Stripes ('87, '88, '00 and '03) winning it twice ('87 and '88). He is president of Isler Sailing International, Inc. a sports marketing and television production company.

**Jameson, Phil**

Function: Foredeck  
Date of birth: 30.07.1977  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 13

Through two campaigns with Team New Zealand, including the 2000 defence, he headed the chaseboat team and became skilled at boat maintenance and sailmaking. Jameson joined ORACLE BMW Racing in 2003 as a sailor. His responsibilities include making and maintaining the boats' running rigging.

**Kolb, Tony**

Function: Foredeck  
Date of birth: 01.04.1976  
Nationality: GER  
Team Number: 7

Kolb, born in Munich, is a skilled sailmaker and boatbuilder. A member of the winning illbruck team in the Volvo Ocean Race 2002, he earned victories at the Sydney Hobart race in 2000, and the Melges 24 North Americans. He was also the winner of the Melges Worlds in 2002 and the Star Class at Kiel Week 2003.

**MacInnes, Brian**

Function: Grinder  
Date of birth: 03.04.1968  
Nationality: CAN  
Team Number: 44

MacInnes started sailing when he was four years old. He captained the WindQuest Sailing Team for 10 years, and has sailed in dozens of Maxis, 48's and 50's, twice garnering boat of the week honours at Key West race week. As a three-times America's Cup sailor he was a member of Young America (1999-2000), Aloha Racing in 2000 and of ORACLE BMW Racing in 2003.

**Mohr, Sten**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 01.07.1969  
Nationality: DEN  
Team Number: 77

The Danish match racing veteran is often found at or near the top of the International Sailing Federation's (ISAF) world match racing ranking list and most recently sailed with Victory Challenge. Mohr was the first person from Europe to become the number one ranked match racer, achieving multiple Grade 1 victories and a European Championship.

**Monk, Craig**

Function: Grinder  
Date of birth: 23.05.1967  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 15

Monk is one of a select few sailors in the world who have won both an Olympic medal and the America's Cup. Since 1995 he has focused on the America's Cup. In 1995 and 2000 he was a member of the victorious Team New Zealand. He also won many national titles sailing single-handed Finn dinghies and a bronze medal in the Finn Class in the 1992 Olympic Games.

**Naismith, Robbie**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 04.05.1964  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 38

The 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup will be Naismith's 5<sup>th</sup> campaign ('92, '95, '00, '03, '07). He is a two-time America's Cup winner (in 1995 and 2000 with Team New Zealand), and a Louis Vuitton Cup winner (1995 with Team New Zealand). He raced a Whitbread Round the World race, several Kenwood Cups, Sydney-Hobarts, Admiral's Cups and Maxi Worlds.

**Neergaard, Jann**

Function: Mastman  
Date of birth: 16.12.1963  
Nationality: DEN  
Team Number: 24

Neergaard, a 2003 America's Cup winner with Alinghi, has recently competed on the grand prix match racing and TP52 circuit with three-time America's Cup winning helmsman Russell Coutts. Neergaard has secured titles in a variety of classes during his career, many of them together with the Danish match racer Sten Mohr who also recently joined the BMW ORACLE Racing afterguard.

**Pacé, Bertrand**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 16.08.1961  
Nationality: FRA  
Team Number: 33

Pacé developed his knowledge and talent over decades of professional sailing. With the America's Cup team in Valencia in 2007, he is steering towards his sixth America's Cup participation – 1987 with French Kiss Syndicate, 1992, 1995 and 2000 with Le Défi and 2003 with Team New Zealand.

**Parada, Guillermo**

Function: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 28.09.1967  
Nationality: ARG  
Team Number: 28

Parada, the only sailor representing Argentina on the BMW ORACLE Racing crew, has been running the Maxi boat Alexia for the past 11 years. Parada's long list of sailing achievements includes wins at various offshore races and many international Maxi titles as well as a Gold Medal at the Pan American Games (Lightning).

**Partridge, Nick**

Function: Foredock  
Date of birth: 08.10.1975  
Nationality: AUS  
Team Number: 46

Partridge sailed with BMW ORACLE Racing extensively during the 2005 two-boat testing program in Valencia and is now part of the foredeck crew. The Australian has widespread experience with dinghies and also sailed with a number of keelboat campaigns including Australia's America's Cup challenge for 2000. A Sydney-Hobart winner, he won the 2005 Fastnet Race with Maximus.

**Smyth, Ed**

Position: Afterguard  
Date of birth: 29.09.1975  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 32

Smyth has two America's Cup campaigns under his belt. He was navigator for Young Australia in 2000, and three years later, bolstered the afterguard on OneWorld Challenge. In 1999 he became 49er Class World Champion. In addition to his afterguard duties, he is responsible for the day-to-day running of the onboard computer and instrument systems.

**Sofuku, Kazuhiko**

Function: Foredeck  
Date of birth: 25.11.1965  
Nationality: JPN  
Team Number: 23

"Fuku" has been racing boats at a world-class level for over a dozen years. He began his international career as a grinder in the International 50-footers. In 1992 he crewed in his first match-race series, and in 1993 he teamed with Peter Gilmour, with whom he has sailed three America's Cups. He was with the 2005 Swedish Match Tour winning team.

**Spooner, Joe**

Function: Grinder  
Date of birth: 31.10.1973  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 99

In his career, the former Team New Zealand member (2000-2003), who holds a Bachelor of Business Studies degree in finance and marketing, has often proved his abilities: e.g. as a multi-time Fastnet winner. He was member of the New Zealand Olympic Sailing team (Finn class) in 1996.

**Trubovich, Morgan**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 27.09.1972  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 27

This will be the Auckland native's fourth America's Cup campaign (1995 Team New Zealand, 2000 AmericaOne and 2003 Stars & Stripes). His achievements include wins at the Fastnet race, the Sydney-Hobart, two Farr 40 World Championships and three-time winner of the Congressional Cup.

**Webb, Brad**

Function: Bowman  
Date of birth: 30.09.1974  
Nationality: NZL  
Team Number: 22

In the past nine years he has competed in over 130 events across 16 countries, including three America's Cups. He rates his greatest successes as winning the Swan World Championships 2000, winning the 2002 Swedish Match Tour with ORACLE BMW Racing and the Match Race World Championship 2004.

**Westlake, Paul**

Function: Trimmer  
Date of birth: 07.08.1961  
Nationality: AUS  
Team Number: 20

The Australian is not only a successful sailor, but former President of "North Sails Cloth". He has won 7 world championship titles and was part of 4 America's Cup campaigns (1995 - One Australia, 1992 - Spirit, 1987 - Kookaburra, 1983 - Advance).

**Williams, Carl**

Function: Mastman/

Grinder

Date of birth: 06.09.1981

Nationality: NZL

Team Number: 30

Williams has been a professional sailor since he was 17 years old and was part of Team New Zealand for the 2003 America's Cup. Sailing has been part of his life since the day he was born. After graduating from the RNZYS Youth Scheme, he competed internationally at grand prix level regattas. He was also part of the winning Maximus crew for the 2005 Fastnet Race.

**Ziskind, Jon**

Function: Trimmer

Date of birth: 17.01.1973

Nationality: USA

Team Number: 26

Jon "Z" Ziskind was born in 1973 in New York and now calls Newport, RI, home. "With BMW ORACLE Racing I have the chance to bring the Cup back to the United States," says Ziskind. The trimmer sailed with ORACLE BMW Racing at the Louis Vuitton Cup 2002/03 and with "America True" in 2000. He is two-time World Match Racing Champion (2003 and 2004).

Background Information

27 March 2006

## **BMW ORACLE Racing**

### The Team behind the Sailing Team

#### **Operations**

The successful day-to-day operation of BMW ORACLE Racing involves the careful management of boats, people and time. The team is fortunate to have the sport's most experienced manager in Laurent Esquier who ensures that the departments are all tracking on the same timelines so that projects are delivered on time. In a high-tech sport where nothing is off the shelf, but all components are custom made, the team must be fully integrated to research, develop, build, test and maintain all the racing equipment. Research and Development, Boat-Building, Logistics, Mast, Sails and Maintenance all fall under this umbrella. This includes team facilities, e.g. the construction of the team's new base in Valencia.

#### **Research and Development**

Headed by Design Coordinator Ian "Fresh" Burns, this team includes about 40 people from 10 nations – some full time and others consultants but all experts in areas of aerodynamics, hydrodynamics, structures and engineering. The BMW engineers Thomas Hahn, Christoph Erbelding and Ingo Raasch in Seattle and Claus Polap in Valencia – supervised by Prof. Dr. Freymann, Director of BMW Group Research and Technology department – are integrated into the BMW ORACLE Racing Design Team transferring technology know-how from the automotive industry. With an International Design Team spread over three continents, the team often shares data and ideas virtually.

#### **Boat-Building**

Led by Mark Turner, Tim Smyth and Mark Somerville, an in-house team of composite construction experts are building the team's two new racing yachts in the Seattle, WA, region of the USA. Another team of builders remains with the existing race boats for modifications and repairs.

## **Logistics**

Headed by Grant “Guthrie” Davidson, this team set up the team’s temporary base in Valencia at the Real Club Nautico while overseeing the construction of the new next-generation team base in the Port America’s Cup. When the team goes on the road for competition, this team organizes the travelling logistics. The logistics team also manages shipping of team cargo – including the new race yachts.

## **Spars and Rigging**

Under the leadership of Steve Wilson of Southern Spars, the mast/rig team develops, constructs and maintains the racing spars, a critical part of the aero package. At 33 metres off the deck, the composite constructed carbon fiber rigs that carry all the sail can literally make or break the team’s success.

## **Sails**

David “Duffy” Duff oversees the sailmaking operations. This team constructs, maintains and repairs racing sails at the on-site loft in Valencia and manages the daily inventory for race boats. They also coordinate construction and delivery of new sails.

## **Shore Team**

The “pit crew” of BMW ORACLE Racing is led by boat maintenance manager Tim Hacket. This group includes experts in the fields of composite mechanical engineering and electronics. The team launches the boats for sailing each day and maintains and develops the yachts to always be “race ready.” When in “race mode” this group works in three shifts to deliver the repairs and improvements needed for the next race.

## **Business Administration**

With four operating companies in USA, New Zealand and Spain and about 140 people from 16 nations, the running of the team’s business is no simple task. Headed by Business Director Russell Green, the team looks after all Financial, Legal, Human Resource, IT and administrative matters and ensures the campaign remains within its fixed budget. With team members and their families relocating to Valencia from around the world, this team has been critical to the success of a smooth transition into Valencia. It also has specialists dealing with the at times complex America’s Cup rules, looking after our role as Challenger of Record, and representing the team on the Challengers Commission.

## **Marketing**

Mirko Groeschner, former Head of Business Development BMW Sports Marketing, has been put in charge of supervising the team responsible for corporate hospitality and the development of sponsorship and sales programs. In coordination with his team, the partner BMW manages the corporate identity and the branding of the America's Cup team as well as the image of the latter. Based on the contents of the team, the communication experts of BMW AG in Munich control the communication tools Print, Website, Media and PR. In the modern new era of the America's Cup where team corporate partners seek a measurable return on their investment, the marketing team takes on greater responsibility than in the past.

Background Information

10 May 2006

## **BMW ORACLE Racing**

Overview of Partners, Sponsors and Suppliers

### **Partner**

#### **BMW**

Bayerische Motoren Werke G.m.b.H. came into being in 1917, having been founded in 1916 as the Bayerische Flugzeugwerke AG (BFW); it became a stock corporation (Aktiengesellschaft) in 1918.

Today, the BMW Group is one of the ten largest car manufacturers in the world and possesses, with its BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce brands, three of the strongest premium brands in the car industry. The BMW Group also has a strong market position in the motorcycle sector and operates successfully in the area of financial services.

The BMW Group aims to generate profitable growth and above-average returns by focusing on the premium segments of the international automobile markets. With this in mind, a wide-ranging product and market initiative was launched back in 2001, which has resulted, over the past years, in the BMW Group expanding its product range considerably and strengthening its worldwide market position. The BMW Group will continue in this vein in the coming years.

#### **ORACLE**

(Nasdaq: ORCL) Oracle's business is information—how to manage it, use it, share it, protect it. The world's largest enterprise software company, Oracle is the only vendor to offer solutions for every tier of your business—database, middleware, business intelligence, business applications, and collaboration. With Oracle, you get information that helps you measure results, improve business processes, and communicate a single truth to your constituents.

## Main Sponsor

### Allianz

Allianz Group is one of the largest and most renowned financial services providers in the world. Representing an international network of strong brands with first-class products, the company brings together the expertise of specialists in the fields of property and casualty insurance, life and health insurance, asset management and banking. Above all, the Allianz Group is committed to excellence in its daily business - in its relationships with customers, shareholders, employees and society.

Founded in 1890 in Berlin, Allianz is now present in more than 70 countries with over 162,000 employees. At the top of the international group is the holding company, Allianz AG, with its head office in Munich.

Allianz Group provides its more than 60 million customers worldwide with a comprehensive range of services in the areas of: Property and Casualty Insurance

Allianz offers a wide range of private insurance solutions that can provide private customers with security and peace of mind. Allianz offers property and casualty insurance for all businesses and industries - from small and mid-size companies to large corporations - and from agriculture through service provision to industrial output. In response to today's ever-changing marketplace, Allianz's specialists worldwide are working together to develop the best solutions in insurance and risk management.

#### Life and Health Insurance

Allianz invests in private customer's future by providing flexible life insurance policies, pension plans and long-term care products. For health care, Allianz offers a variety of solutions - from complete private health coverage to complementary health insurance - designed to meet the specific needs of one's particular situation. Allianz also offers attractive products for business customers - from general pension funds to solutions for company directors. Allianz offers everything from assistance with complicated pension management issues to health insurance products for the firm and its employees.

#### Asset Management and Banking

As a global network of investment experts, Allianz Global Investors offers a wide range of high performance mutual funds and investment solutions developed by Allianz's network

of world-class investment specialists. The combination of Allianz and Dresdner Bank creates considerable value added through a wider range of financial products for customers in Germany, broader sales channels, and greater advisory capacity and expertise. It also allows more convenient access to private and company pension products. For multinational clients Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein - the investment bank of Dresdner Bank with international reach - offers a full range of capital markets and advisory services.

## **Associate Sponsor**

### **Girard-Perregaux**

Being masters of time measurement throughout the ages: this is the challenge that Girard-Perregaux has continued to face with great success, remaining constantly at the cutting edge of the world's luxury watchmaking since 1791. In addition to being one of the oldest Swiss manufacturers, the company, led by Italian entrepreneur Luigi Macaluso, has made its contribution to the growth of fine watchmaking through a policy of constant innovation, while still adhering to the strict tradition and independence of the master watchmakers.

Innovating in the area of materials as well as in research, always taking the best of the traditional and combining it with the new developments that each era and field of activity have brought with them, even those furthest removed from watchmaking.

Maintaining its independence, in order to guarantee the freedom to try out creative ideas that can then be introduced into the market place. Today, Girard-Perregaux owns one of the very few manufactories, where the entire creative and production process takes place internally, from the conception of the movement to the design of the case.

Girard-Perregaux, therefore, embodies the courage to experiment and try out even the boldest of ideas, in the knowledge that it is aiming to create something new and better. A philosophy that has brought the creation of mechanical watch movements to a level of perfection that few can match. Like the fabulous Tourbillon with three gold bridges, a highly complicated and refined movement that is considered to be the signature of Girard-Perregaux in the world of luxury watchmaking.

It is from this desire to roll back the boundaries, which was born the decision to team up with BMW ORACLE Racing, with whom Girard-Perregaux aspires to win an extreme challenge, placing perfection alongside technological innovation, with a strong human element and the will to be a team uniting the best international experience in each sector.

## **NETSUITE**

Founded in 1998 by Oracle CEO and Chairman, Larry Ellison, and his leading technology guru and current NetSuite CTO, Evan Goldberg, NetSuite brings the power of on-demand business management software at low-cost to small, medium and large enterprises. From the introduction of NetSuite's first product in 1999 to the 2002 launch of NetSuite, the first mid-market integrated CRM/ERP/Ecommerce offering, the company has led the market in creating a new standard in business applications. With thousands of customers globally in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia, NetSuite is the leading provider of integrated on-demand CRM/ERP/Ecommerce application software for small, medium and large businesses.

NetSuite product offerings include NetSuite, NetSuite CRM, NetSuite CRM+, and NetSuite Small Business. These product offerings have won numerous industry awards including PC Magazine Editor's Choice, eWEEK Excellence Awards, SIIA Codie Awards for Best Software Service, and TMC Product of the Year Award. Ranked the fastest growing private software company in the Silicon Valley in 2005 and second fastest growing private software company in the Silicon Valley in 2004 by Inc. Magazine, NetSuite also swept two honors of being the second fastest growing company in North America and the fastest growing company in Silicon Valley in 2005 by Deloitte.

## Technology Partners

### **Henri Lloyd**

Henri Lloyd, leading manufacturer of specialist sailing clothing, is Technology Partner to BMW ORACLE Racing for their challenge for the America's Cup in Valencia in 2007.

Henri Lloyd's design team are involved in an intensive joint development programme to provide a "total" clothing and footwear programme for the BMW ORACLE Racing team.

Henri Lloyd has an extensive knowledge and experience of innovative fabric technology and clothing systems, in particular the understanding of how they impact upon an individual's physical and mental performance. This is illustrated in products already in Henri Lloyd's 2005 HL Innovations range, some of which are further developed in BMW ORACLE Racing's new team clothing line. Henri Lloyd's design team are working with BMW ORACLE Racing's Clothing Technology Group made up of key position crew members David Brooke, Craig Monk and Ross Halcrow to design a range of technical clothing suited to the specific crew roles on the race boat and to the variety of climates in which the crews will be racing.

Henri Lloyd has designed a wide range of products for the syndicate. The range includes garments for the racing team and support team covering all climatic conditions and occasions. Henri Lloyd has launched a BMW ORACLE Racing Collection, which is available to buy via the BMW ORACLE Racing online store, Henri Lloyd Retail Stores and the BMW Partner network. The Collection will also be available at the Henri Lloyd Store at the public area of the Team Base in Valencia.

### **Network Appliance**

Network Appliance, Inc. (NetApp), a world leader in unified storage solutions for today's data-intensive enterprise, is Technology Partner to BMW ORACLE Racing for their challenge for the America's Cup in Valencia in 2007.

BMW ORACLE Racing's design team is using NetApp equipment in a high performance grid configuration to design & deliver the winning yacht. Network Appliance was founded on the idea of simplicity. We revolutionized storage by pioneering the network appliance and creating solutions that do one thing very well—serve information. Likewise, Oracle was founded on the idea of reducing complexity—creating database solutions that turn

mountains of data into valuable information. Our two visions integrate well, resulting in a powerful combined solution that works well together, is easily deployed and managed and helps customers reduce costs.

<http://www.netapp.com/partners/oracle/>

## **Official Supplier**

**Parker Hannifin Corporation**

**PTC**

**NetIDEAS**

**PWS Motion Control (Inc)**

**CD-adapco**

**Moet & Chandon**

**Gleistein Ropes**

**Tecno**

**Samsung**

**Belton**

**ANSYS**

Press Information

26 April 2006

## **BMW and its commitment to yachting**

Third strong pillar in sports marketing besides golf and motorsport – challenging and highly technological

BMW and yachting – a successful partnership. In professional yachting BMW is, with its America's Cup challenging team BMW ORACLE Racing and the experienced CEO and skipper Chris Dickson, a major presence. Besides its international engagement BMW is setting new impetus at the national level with the support of premium events in the yachting calendar.

### **Looking ahead to the America's Cup 2007: BMW ORACLE Racing**

Next year, the challenger of Team Alinghi will be decided in Valencia. The best crew will then have the chance to claim the title which will be defended by the Swiss team. The team is on target for the America's Cup – in the final classification of the America's Cup Class Championship 2004, BMW ORACLE Racing came second. The crew continued to be successful in 2005, with a third-place finish at the ACC Season Championship and by being the best participant in the current Louis Vuitton ranking. BMW had its debut in international yacht racing in 2002. As of its first season, the team formerly named ORACLE BMW Racing caused a fresh breeze by managing to be runner-up at the Louis Vuitton Cup in New Zealand, the elimination round for the legendary America's Cup.

Despite the subsequent defeat against Team Alinghi in the final 2003, sailing experts across the world have expressed their respect that Team ORACLE BMW Racing had performed extremely well in Auckland. In retrospective, Jan-Christiaan Koenders, the manager of brand communications at BMW, states: "Our start in professional high-performance yachting was a major success. The America's Cup ranks as one of the absolute premium events in this sport. Our strategic decision to sustainably engage in this sector has been absolutely justified and appeals to our target groups."

Besides financial participation BMW contributes its valuable technological competence, particularly in the field of intelligent lightweight construction. Headed by Professor Dr. Freymann, Director of BMW Group Research and Technology Department, experienced BMW engineers Thomas Hahn, Christoph Erbelding, Ingo Raasch and Claus Polap are

fully integrated in the BMW ORACLE Racing design team. Among other things, they are responsible for structural analysis and optimisation of the hull structure. Demonstration of their expertise: up until the spring of this year, the keel fin, one of the most important components of BMW ORACLE Racing's new high-tech yacht, was manufactured at the BMW plant in Eisenach.

### **Kieler Woche, World Match Racing Tour and BMW Sailing Cup**

Besides its international engagement at the America's Cup, BMW is also active in national waters, thereby reinforcing its strategy of establishing yachting as the third pillar of sports marketing besides golfing and motor sports. Examples include yachting events in Great Britain, France and Italy. BMW has also been involved in the Kieler Woche since 2003, and since 2004 has been a premium partner and presenting sponsor. However, the centre of attraction directly related to this sports activity is the BMW marina in the heart of Kiel from 17-25 June this year. In 2005 alone, around 600,000 visitors came to see the "BMW Bootshafen".

The positive experience gained in international markets has encouraged BMW to extend the engagement. Since 2004 the automotive group has also been present as a partner and "official car" of the World Match Racing Tour, the world's most famous Match Race series, which was previously known as the "Swedish Match Tour". Within the scope of the World Match Racing Tour, the "ISAF Match Racing World Champion" will be decided in 2007.

And BMW continues its already successful course in yachting with the launch of the BMW Sailing Cup, a new annually held series for yachting amateurs. Analogous to the BMW Golf Cup International, BMW now offers at local, national and international level a competition platform for active yachtsmen. The BMW Sailing Cup is aimed at two target groups. On the one hand it is conceived for interested leisure sailors (amateurs) with sailing licenses and practical knowledge. BMW offers qualification regattas for this group that include a fleet race of up to three days. Besides this, BMW has a special award – the BMW Trophy – for ambitious regatta sailors (professionals), the second target group. These are highly experienced yachtsmen who regularly participate at regattas. These regatta series are staged within the scope of such renowned sailing events, such as the Kieler Woche, Lindau Rundum and the Berlin Match Race. Simultaneous to the regattas in Germany yachtsmen in five other European countries will also be deciding their national winners. Yachtsmen in Spain, Denmark, Great Britain, Austria and Malta will start

the qualification process for the world final in a similar mode in Valencia in April 2007. The victorious team can expect an exclusive day's training with the professionals from the BMW ORACLE Racing America's Cup team.

## Background Information

26 April 2006

# **BMW's commitment to sports**

## **Motor sport**

Since the early days of BMW, innovative technology for competitive sports and the striving for outstanding performances have been an integral part of the company's self-conception. In the world of motor sport, BMW has been successful with motorbikes, touring cars, sports cars and in Formula 1. The latter in particular emphasises the core competence of the brand BMW in terms of technology and sports. The fact that BMW constructs its own engines is the basis for the reciprocal technology transfer between Formula 1 and serial production. Nelson Piquet's World Championship title in 1983, only one year after BMW first joined the premium class of motor sport, impressively proved the competence of BMW in the field of engines. When, after twelve years' absence, BMW again became involved in Formula 1 in 2000, the enterprise began another new chapter in the history of motor sport with its partner Williams F1. The BMW Williams F1 team was immediately ranked third in the Constructors' World Championship – the most successful Formula 1 debut among engine producers in 33 years. The first Grand Prix victory was to follow in 2001. In 2002 and 2003, BMW claimed second place in the Constructors' World Championship. As of this year, the company will be breaking new ground in Formula 1 with the BMW Sauber F1 team. The drivers, [Nick Heidfeld](#) and [Jacques Villeneuve](#), will be representing the BMW Sauber F1 team in the FIA Formula 1 World Championship 2006.

## **Golfing**

Since 1985, BMW has been paying tribute to the growing importance of golf for its target groups by organising both amateur and professional golf tournaments. For the worldwide elite, the BMW International Open carried out in Munich, the city where BMW's headquarters are located, is one of the most important golf tournaments of the PGA European Tour. From August 31<sup>st</sup> until September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2006, the world's best professionals will be getting together here for the 18<sup>th</sup> staging of the tournament. In

2001, BMW extended its golf commitment to also include Asia. This spring, the Munich-based company is due to host the BMW Asian Open, one of the greatest golf tournaments in terms of prize money, in China for the fifth time. The Tomson Shanghai Pudong Golf Club will be the venue for the event. From April 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, approximately 1.5 million US Dollars will be luring the golfing elite from throughout the world to the Chinese metropolis – among them top players like David Howell, Colin Montgomery and Thomas Björn.

Besides the BMW International Open and the BMW Asian Open, the automotive group organises *the* top-class tournament of the European Tour in co-operation with the PGA - the BMW Championship. BMW is partner and title sponsor of this event, which is probably the most prestigious of its kind throughout Europe. The renowned classic was first held under the new name of the BMW Championship at the Wentworth Club in Surrey, England, in May 2005. From May 25<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup> of this year, the tournament will be held for the second time since it was renamed. BMW will also be there when the top professionals from Europe and the USA get together in Ireland on the occasion of the Ryder Cup 2006 from September 22<sup>nd</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> – as the “official car”. Beyond its commitment to professional golf, BMW also organises the world’s biggest tournament series for amateurs. At the BMW Golf Cup International 2005, more than 100,000 ambitious golf amateurs attempted to qualify for the subsequent world final at approximately 1,000 tournaments around the globe. This year, the world final will be taking place from December 4<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> at the Fancourt Country Club on the Garden Route in South Africa.

### **Yachting**

Besides Formula 1 and golf, yachting is the third pillar of BMW’s international sports marketing strategy. With the BMW ORACLE Racing team, the car manufacturer will be participating in the race for the world’s oldest sporting trophy in yachting for the second time since its successful debut in 2002 – on the occasion of the America’s Cup 2007 in Valencia. By becoming actively involved in high-performance yachting, BMW has continued its strategy of promoting premium sports events. Apart from the financial support, BMW is in charge of marketing the team and significantly contributes to the optimisation of the racing yachts by making available its automotive technology experience, especially in the field of intelligent lightweight construction. The America’s Cup as a synonym for the “Formula 1 of Yachting” stands for challenge, state-of-the-art technology, teamwork and tactics, combined with the aesthetics and elegance of

yachting: attributes that very much correspond to the philosophy behind the BMW brand. As a consequence, the America's Cup, being the most prestigious yachting event worldwide, offers BMW the ideal platform to present the brand within a competitive, technologically sophisticated sports environment. Furthermore, since 2004 BMW has been partner and "official car" at the World Match Racing Tour, the world's most renowned match race series. And the automotive group has been supporting yachting in Germany since 2003 as the "official car" and since 2004 as the "sponsoring partner" of the Kieler Woche. From June 17<sup>th</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> of this year, BMW will again be sponsoring the world's biggest yachting event. In addition, as of June 2006, the yachting world may look forward to a new event: the BMW Sailing Cup, being the newly conceived yachting regatta for leisure yachtsmen at local, national and international level.

## **Media Contact**

Photo and video material are available from BMW ORACLE Racing at [www.bmor-photo.com](http://www.bmor-photo.com) and [www.bmor-video.com](http://www.bmor-video.com). For up to date press information please visit the media centre on [www.bmworacleracing.com](http://www.bmworacleracing.com), send an email to [media@bmworacleracing.com](mailto:media@bmworacleracing.com) or contact:

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