

Job Description

Job Title:	Race Expert/Watch Officer – 3 front line positions available
Department:	Race Management
Location:	Race HQ, Alicante, Spain. It is NOT a travelling role.
Project teams:	Race Management, Race Communications/Media, Crisis Team
Reports to:	Meteorology and Race Control Manager
Contract term:	June-September (earliest-latest) 2017 to June-July 2018

Job Context

The Volvo Ocean Race is sailing's toughest race to win and the ultimate test of a team in professional sport. The 2017-18 edition, starting in October, will see the teams compete over 46,000 nautical miles in a race around the world like no other.

The nerve centre of the offshore operation is the Race Control room at our HQ in Alicante and Race Expert/Watch Officers will be crucial to its operation – in both safety but also race communication terms to fans.

The boats are monitored 24/7 while at sea and our team of Race Expert/Watch Officers will use data from the fleet of Volvo Ocean 65s, along with a comprehensive package of weather information, to analyse performance and strategy throughout the race, and monitor with respect to safety considerations. Race Expert/Watch Officers will be the first eyes on the rich multimedia content coming from the boats, and the first to receive news of any problems. They will generate reports and use their sailing expertise to add context to race comms, and enhance the race experience for the millions of fans following the race on our digital platforms. They will be trusted to determine when content from the boats is immediately shareable or not.

It's a "frontline" position on both race management AND race communications to fans.

Role Description

The role of Race Expert/Watch Officer is the perfect opportunity either for very experienced sailors who want to be back in the heart of the Volvo Ocean Race or young sailors determined to compete in the race in the future. Key aspects of the role include, in a phased watch-keeping mode whilst the boats are racing:

- Build relationships with each team, via constant communication with the sailing teams at sea and our Onboard Reporters.
- Monitoring of the fleet with the best navigation and weather tools available.
- Analysis and communication of team strategy, supporting our wider media and comms team with their high quality content, and direct and immediate explanations of tactics to our online audience as a Race Expert via various digital channels 24/7 (Race Expert whats app etc).
- Being a first point of contact for emergency incident management, supporting the Crisis Management Team.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience Required

The ideal candidate will possess:

- Outstanding communication skills – in particular desire and ability to share the race story directly with our online audience.
- Strong analytical skills and operational rigour.
- Proven offshore racing experience.
- Knowledge of modern yacht racing navigation, software, instrumentation and concepts involved.
- Excellent IT Skills.
- RYA Offshore Yachtmaster or equivalent.
- Passion for the sport and the race!
- A desire to inspire.
- Be hungry, humble and people smart (know how to interact in a team under pressure)

Requirements to apply:

- EU national or ability to acquire necessary EU working permits.
- Fluent English (written and spoken). Other languages are a plus.
- Your CV/resume must be in English, and confirm your nationality/work permit status.
- Email your application to careers@volvoceanrace.com
- Deadline: 21 May 2017.