

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN **COMMUNITIES**

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PRESS RELEASE

Third Round Europe Yacht Race

A lone British challenger, Tony Bullimore, in his trimaran "Spirit of Apricot", will take on the big multi-hulled boats from France, West Germany, Holland, Spain, Canada and Portugal in the third Open UAP Round Europe Yacht Race which begins in Hamburg on 23 July.

The racers will call in at Southampton on 27-29 July following the second stage of the six-stage race which ends in Toulon on 14 August.

The European Commission has given its patronage to the event as part of its activities to promote a "People's Europe" as a follow-up to the recommendations adopted by the European Council at Fontainbleau in 1984 and Milan in 1985. The Commission's aim in giving its patronage to the UAP OPEN of the European Community is to make Europe an idea more tangible to Community citizens, using a sporting event to give the Community a higher profile.

The Race is restricted to ocean-going multi-hulls (catamarans and trimarans) of between 15 and 22.85 metres, with a crew of at least five. Entrants will be devided into two classes Formula I: 18.28 m - 22.85 m and Forumula II: 15 m - 18.28 m.

Hamburg is celebrating the 800th anniversary of its foundation this year, and by the time the racers have called at The Hague, Southampton, Lorient, Vigo, Vilamoura and arrived in Toulon, they will have covered a distance of 2491 miles.

Sponsored by the Union des Assurances Professionnelles (France), previous races were held in 1985 and 1987. 18 yachts are expected to take part.

Race itinerary: Hamburg - The Hague: 23/24 July
The Hague - Southampton: 26/27 July Southampton - Lorient: 29/31 July Lorient - Vigo: 1/3 August Vigo - Vilamoura: 5/7 August Vilamoura - Toulon: 9/14 August.

see map on reverse

