

*Sail
straight
into
the
wind*



Racing Aeolus Den Helder: One of the World's four largest sustainability race!

Back in the days of ancient Greek history, Odysseus and his crew were forced to sail back to where they came from, namely the isle of Aeolia. That was not their plan. They wanted to sail home, and were right on their way with a comfortable Westwind in their back. This wind was a gift from the God of Winds Aeolus, along with a tightly closed bag

that carried all four winds. Aeolus had clearly told them to keep the bag closed but they their curiosity took over and, turned against them. An incredible wind force of nature blew them back to Aeolia. Their final destination was way out of reach now, so the story goes...



The ten both Dutch and international teams competing in Racing Aeolus – one of the

largest sustainability races in the world – will prove however, that over time they might be able to race against the wind.

From August 22 – 24, it will be for the sixth time that student teams varying from Holland (4), to Germany (3), Turkey (1), Denmark (1) and Canada (1) will make an effort to generate power from the wind and race their hyper modern vehicles over the unique Dutch sea dyke. Several teams will start with more than one vehicle, a total of 17 vehicles!

That dyke is located in the top of North Holland, homebase of Royal Naval Marine and innovative technology based offshore industry. What better place to try and reach the races destination and – maybe – set a new world record! One that is now registered in the name of Danish Technical University Team (74,5%).

Wind from Den Helder Works!

Rumor has it that there's no where so much wind as in this Dutch city Den Helder. Well, we couldn't be more happy since that is exactly what the contestants need during the Racing Aeolus!

Wind and technology is a logical combination in naval- and offshore city Den Helder. It's rapidly specializing itself into the knowledge innovative Port of Den Helder in the area of maritime maintenance and logistics. It's already the leading offshore harbour for oil and gas in the area of operations and maintenance.

Port of Den Helder has all that it takes to be the leading offshore harbour for wind energy as well.

In this area, a 5,3 kilometres long sea dyke will challenge the contestants to start well prepared. Over the years, we've seen the quality increased big time! For example, in one of the first races, a bicycle repairer's help was called for when students ran into problems with their cars. Now they need electrical engineers!

Cooperation & ingenuity

The wind cars build by the student teams evolve more and more into ingenious, technological tour the forces. The latest calculations and innovative techniques to extract energy from wind are being tested in the race. This year, new innovations are also expected. For example, a vehicle from Broers Multiservice will start with double rotors. Electrical vehicles will also become more and more important. And, as previous years, we expect some innovative surprises as well....

'What's also a vital aspect and reason for colleges and universities to attend, is that winning demands working together. Stirring the car, thinking about the technique to get the blades rotate and aerodynamica, many different disciplines add up to the ability to design and drive a winning car. Students will also be credited for their ability to work together. It's a sportive and intellectual challenge', chairman of the organising foundation WEE Hans Verhoef says.



Challenge high tech boundaries

Verhoef is outspoken in explaining the organisations goal: 'We look forward to continually challenging the high tech boundaries which make racing against the wind possible and, to set new (world) records! It's definitely possible to race harder than the speed of the wind itself. Here, on the Dutch sea dyke, in the city of Den Helder, it might just happen!'

Contestants & information

The Netherlands

1. Anemo Volt from InHolland Alkmaar. First time. Have a wind car from InHolland Delft that they rebuild.
2. Broers Multiservice – Schagerbrug. First time. Experienced through working on ECN and Amsterdam's cars.
3. Spirit of Amsterdam from Hogeschool Amsterdam. Won the race several times in the past. Might happen again!
4. Team Anemo – Rootbox van InHolland Delft. Participated before and aims for Gold this year!

Germany

5. Baltic Thunder from Kiel. Participant from the very beginning.
6. Hochschule Emden-Leer: had a disappointing result last year but definitely have plans to do better this time.
7. Inventus – University of Stuttgart. Will participate with three vehicles!

Turkey

8. Yildiz Technical University team. Participated before and wants to win!

Denmark

9. DTU Technical University Team. Participant from the very beginning and proudly keeps the World record! (0,75)!

Canada

10. Chinook from Canadian Quebec. Winner of the 2012 edition.

Racing Aeolus: one of the World's four largest sustainability races!

In the whole world, there are only four large sustainability races: The World Solar Challenge in Australia, The Dong Energy Solar Challenge Boat race in Friesland (Holland), The Shell Eco Marathon in Delft and, last but not least The Racing Aeolus in Den Helder. The first race took place in 2008. The next two editions took place in Denmark due to organisational and financial reasons. Since then however, Den Helder is again the place to be.

Near future plans

Within the current concept, there's only room for a maximum of fifteen teams to participate. Within the organisation, there's an ambition to have a wind powered vehicle from the city of Den Helder participating in the race. That could be a joint cooperation between WEE, The Royal Naval Institute and offshore companies.

The organisation also investigates the idea to bring the students in contact with technology based companies in and around Den Helder if wished for. That could be an interesting opportunity for both parties. In this area, there are quite a few technology based companies like NIOZ and IMARES on Texel, TNO and IMARES in Den Helder, ECN in Petten and EWTC and WMC in Hollands Kroon. But, the event itself and having a good time is the main thing! To start with, the organisation will invite all participants on a tour through the wonderful city of Den Helder also showing it's specific qualities.

The race & parcours

The races are from August 22 through 24th of August. Friday the 23rd, the preliminaries take place. The days before those, there will be plenty of time to practice and to enjoy the city.

Though sailing and landyachting are both considered never to be straight into the wind, stranger things happen on the Den Helder shores! The track is a 5.3 kilometers seawall on the boundary between land and the sea, which runs from Huisduinen (a former fishermens village) to literally Hollands' last

stop before the Northsea: Lands End in Den Helder. Participants ride their WPVs' on the (slope)side over the seawall. Over a distance of 500 meter, the speed of the vehicle (Vcar) is measured. Also the average wind speed during the race on the dyke is being measured (Vws). The ratio of Vcar / Vws shows how efficient the vehicle with race against the wind. The world record is in hands of the Danish team (DTU) with 74,5%.

The participants are hosted again by the 'Helderse Rugby Club'. Together with a large team of volunteers, they make sure everybody will have a great time!

The organisation has improved the way results are being displayed. Immediately after the race, they can be read on screens!

More information

Information about Racing Aeolus can be found on: www.windenergyevents.com

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F www.facebook.com/RacingAeolus

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Sponsors

We are highly appreciative of our sponsors. Without them, we would not have been able to make this event happen!

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