

> The America's Cup

- The world's oldest international sporting trophy and the pinnacle of sailing technology
- The America's Cup was first offered as the Hundred Pound Cup in 1851 for a race around the Isle of Wight
- The Cup was won by the schooner 'America' from New York who beat a fleet of British boats around the Island and it subsequently became known as the America's Cup
- American teams representing the New York Yacht Club successfully defended all challenges for 132 years - the longest winning streak in sport - until an Australian team won in 1983
- The Cup has been held in eight global locations Cowes, New York / Newport, Fremantle, San Diego, Auckland, Valencia, San Francisco, Bermuda
- Emirates Team NZ are the current holders of the America's Cup



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> AC35 Class

- 50 foot foiling catamaran with "wing sail"
- Overall dimensions specified in class rule
- Technical freedom hydrofoil design, control systems, wing structure, aerodynamics
- "Flying surfaces" will be hydraulically actuated with power from 4 sailors
- Capable of speeds up to 85 km/h
- No fly by wire, the helmsman is constantly in the control loop
- All the power generation must be human



> AC35 Technical Team

50 Technical Staff including

- Designers and Naval Architects
- Performance Prediction and Data Analytics
- Fluid Dynamists and CFD Engineers
- Structural and Composite Engineers
- Mechanical, Hydraulic and Electrical Design



> The Challenge

- A 'Moon Shot'. We have one chance to get it right!
- This is a "technical race"
- Leading edge advanced technology
- Tremendous time pressures
- Limited opportunity to physically test
- Regulation constraints
- Safety critical



The Challenge

A large variety of prototype composite parts





> The Challenge

- A large variety of prototype composite parts
 - from sandwich 50gsm plies over 28kg/m3 Nomex
 - to 70mm solid carbon foils





> The Challenge

- A large variety of prototype composite parts
 - from sandwich 50gsm plies over 28kg/m3 Nomex
 - to 70mm solid carbon foils
 - via cored and solid composite assemblies



Structures – the simulated world



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Structures – the real world



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Structures – the real world



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>NDT use in the America's Cup world

• Design Phase

- Characterize designed defect sizes
- Calibration of NDT equipment reading at coupon level
- Setting acceptance criterias
- Manufacturing Phase
 - Manufacturing process sign off
 - Measurement of defects for further FEA analysis
 - Support during the proof loading/acceptance structural testing
- Service Phase
 - Health monitoring of structural components
 - Assessments of damage areas
 - Sign off of repairs





> NDT toolbox

Ultrasonic equipment

- A-scan and phase array scan
- Primary NDT tool for spotting defects requiring further analysis
- Referenced phase array scan created for service phase monitoring
- AE equipment
 - Use as support during the proof loading/acceptance structural testing
- Thermography
 - Part of the tool box for final acceptance at the end of the manufacturing phase
- Tomography
 - Part of the tool box for final acceptance at the end of the manufacturing phase
 - Results used as support for UT A-scan









NDT toolbox – defect characterization





Coupon level

- Characterize materials
- Material properties/allowables
- Quality checks









Coupon level

- Characterize materials
- Material properties/allowables
- Quality checks
- Substructure level
 - Manufacturing/processing methods
 - Analysis correlation









Structural testing

Coupon level

- Characterize materials
- Material properties/allowables
- Quality checks

• Substructure level

- Manufacturing/processing methods
- Analysis correlation

Component level

- Proof loading/acceptance testing
- Performance correlation
- Instrumentation calibration







Structural testing

Coupon level

- Characterize materials
- Material properties/allowables
- Quality checks

• Substructure level

- Manufacturing/processing methods
- Analysis correlation

Component level

- Proof loading/acceptance testing
- Performance correlation
- Instrumentation calibration
- Assembly level
 - Proof loading
 - Systems testing





What's Next - AC36

- 2021, New Zealand
- 75 foot foiling Monohull
- More restrictions on physical testing- Further emphasis on simulation





> LRBAR NDT collaborator

- Pierrepont Analysis Ltd (UK)
- Vetorix Engineering (IT)
- Pancom Ltd (UK)







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