



MAR YI tracking beacon

## CLS, a historic partner in the 40<sup>th</sup> Solitaire du Figaro event

CLS is one of the historic partners of the Solitaire. The company, the exclusive operator of the Argos system, was the first to provide the biggest races with tracking beacons. Today, CLS has developed its Argos beacons to improve the safety of skippers and help the organisers bring this fantastic adventure to life in real time. This specifically includes the Iridium constellation (66 satellites) following the yachts throughout the race. Each boat is equipped with a “Mar YI” tracking and assistance beacon. These beacons are the leading components of the satellite system operated by CLS.

This system includes the satellites, 2 ground reception antenna centres and two data processing centres. The beacons transmit a message providing information concerning the boat's location every 30 minutes. Using this tracking system, the race PC can confirm the ranking for each boat, provide the general public with maps, as well as improving the skippers' safety at sea.

CLS, a world leader in satellite-based data collection, installs leaktight and stand-alone beacons on each boat. Attached to the stern on a stanchion, the beacons transmit a message to the satellite, which, in turn, sends it to a network of ground antennas. The message is then transmitted to a CLS processing centre that operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

It is the processing centre at CLS that then decodes the racers' positions and delivers the results to the race PC. CLS has particular ties with explorers and adventurers, whether they are skippers like Michel Desjoyeaux, extreme explorers like Jean-Louis Etienne, science travellers like Stéphane Lévin or sailors like Maud Fontenoy.

CLS provides them all with the required equipment and continuously monitors their progress. CLS, a subsidiary of CNES (French National Centre for Space Studies) and IFREMER (French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea), is the global operator of the Argos system. The company has 320 employees: 240 in France, and 80 in its offices and subsidiaries around the world.

### CLS IN FIGURES

**1 MILLION**

messages processed daily by the CLS monitoring and processing centre

**4**

beacons developed by CLS since the launch of its racing applications in 1982

**330**

staff

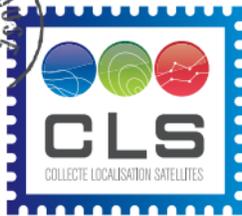
**3**

areas of operation

-  sustainable resource management
-  environmental monitoring
-  maritime safety

**3**  
specialist  
fields

-  location
-  collection of data
-  ocean observation



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