



SLAM is back in the Ocean: at the end of October it will face the unpredictable round the world "Volvo Ocean Race" with its weather and water adversities along with its irresistible charm.

SLAM has created a special technical and sportswear line to climb aboard Groupama, designed to face the 40,000 miles of the Volvo Ocean Race, battling waves, storms and equatorial calms.

SLAM will be present with an itinerant shop at the nine legs, at the round the world race stopover sites

THE OCEAN CALLS AGAIN AFTER WINNING THE 33rd AMERICA'S CUP

Back in the '90s, SLAM began to take up the challenges posed by conditions that only the ocean can present – and unleash. That's when SLAM took part in an adventure on board the Merit Cup – in what was then the "Whitbread Round the World Race", marking the start of its path towards what is now the floating workshop operating throughout the world for its high performance garments, those technical garments that in regattas of this kind must be extremely hard-wearing, without neglecting the well-being of the yachters who are on the high seas for days on end. Since then, roads have been furrowed – or rather, miles and seas have been sailed. SLAM is always ready to change course to face any new challenge: after reaching the peak of success in 2010, winning the 33rd America's Cup onboard BMW ORACLE Racing, the objectives for 2011 are changing, they are expanding, and SLAM is embarking on the VOR70 GROUPAMA for the world race for sailing teams in legs, rebranded Volvo Ocean Race. The Ocean calls again and SLAM is ready to innovate: no more garments that are "styled to fit" yachters for short, very intense, often acrobatic feats but garments designed to guarantee the performance and results which people who have to spend weeks out at sea require. A new and certainly challenging endeavour in terms of research. The iconic sailing regatta, the prestigious Volvo Ocean Race 2011-2012, will start in the Spanish port of Alicante on 29 October and cover 39,270 nautical miles to arrive in Galway, Ireland after 9 months of sailing round the world. The adventure is about to begin!

THE GROUPAMA VOLVO OCEAN RACE SPORTSWEAR COLLECTION

Grey and white with orange details and piping are the colours of the special sportswear collection created for the GROUPAMA team for the Volvo Ocean Race and on sale at authorised retailers, SLAM SHOPS, directly on the website www.slam.com and in the Volvo Ocean Race village, present at each of the nine stopovers. The GROUPAMA collection includes a men's, women's and children's line and offers a range of garments ranging from the brand-new, ultra-light Blow jacket to short jackets, jumpers, polo shirts and t-shirts, without neglecting accessories like bags, carryalls, hats and belts. A collection that will allow wearers to identify with the team colours and have a wardrobe suitable for the legs of the round the world race (for anyone lucky enough to be in attendance), as well as for city life experienced by fans who in any case, follow the ocean-going adventure of the Volvo Ocean Race and Groupama in particular, from the comfort of home. In terms of the "hottest" garments, we have the Groupama Blow jacket, perfect for anyone who makes portability and lightness a way of being. This is a "pocket" jacket – in other words it folds in on itself with an elasticised belt, and stands out both because it is practical and because it is soft and light; the outer is made from insulated, water-repellent, wind-proof and quick drying nylon. But the thing that really distinguishes it is the special padding: the Primaloft® it is as warm and soft as a down jacket; the ultrafine fibres undergo special treatment in a patented process, then they are combined in an incredibly soft, light, water-repellent insulating padding. In actual fact, the microfibers do not absorb water and retain heat even when it is wet. Of course, the Groupama collection includes the classic "Sailing Jacket" both in the summer (men's, women's, children's) and winter versions. The Soft Shell jacket is again proposed for cold weather – also in the vest version, with soft shell on the front and fleece on the back – fleece inner, water and wind-proof. If the weather is a little less cold then the choice lies with the unfailing sweatshirts – with a detachable hood on the women's version, polos, t-shirts and the ever-practical Bermuda shorts in very light fabrics.

ABOARD GROUPAMA UTMOST TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION IN TERMS OF FABRICS/MATERIALS

The SLAM R&D staff has put together all the innumerable requests, information, recommendations, stratagems through these years of extreme sailing alongside Franck Cammas and his crew, which were essential to optimise the production of the new Oceanica line: technical garments perfect for people who have to sail for miles and miles at constantly variable and extreme conditions: from calm equatorial waters to the roaring 40s; garments that have to assure utmost waterproof safety and protection, while guaranteeing comfort, lightness, thermoregulation, breathability as well as bacterial static features. It was a big job, particularly for the oceanic oilskins, creating them for both off-shore and on-shore. In the America's Cup, SLAM revolutionised the concept of oilskins with that high-performance, but very short-term – due to the speed of the regattas with skiffs – "Stretch" , whereas with Franck Cammas and Groupama, it worked to come up with a high-performance, long-term oilskin. Perhaps the most unusual thing that was adopted is the length of the spray top, which goes down to just above the knee (when standing), so you can sit on the jacket and not just on the trousers when sitting on the boat. The neoprene was retained at the waist and the hoods with clear, transparent sides were adopted. The collars are a double-triple closure to prevent the entry of water arriving suddenly and lots of it with the ocean waves.

OILSKINS – TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

1) **Ocean oilskins**, for the most challenging legs and treacherous oceans.

The materials employed for these oilskins set them apart:

100% nylon: 300 gr/m; 3-layer, trilaminate with an anti-abrasive layer that reinforces the material.

WATERPROOF: 30,000mm

BREATHABLE: 10,000 gr/sq m./ 24 h

Innovative details:

- Longer jackets and spray tops (with skirt) to protect the back when the team is seated
- A pocket on the sleeve to hold communication devices used between the sailing team members when involved in operations
- Highly-visible reflex points for safety on the sea
- Pile-lined hood with side windows for broader visibility

2) **In-shore oilskins**, for the in-port races:

More practical and suitable for short regattas, these oilskins are special on account of the materials employed: 100% nylon: 100 gr/m; 3-layer high performance, ultra light, stretch, laminated with an anti-abrasive layer that reinforces the material.

WATERPROOF: 20,000mm

BREATHABLE: 12,000 gr/sq m./ 24 h

Innovative details:

- Spray top with latex collar, neoprene on reverse side
- Interior pocket inside the front pocket, which opens directly on the body to improve ventilation (ventilation pocket)
- Highly-visible reflex points for safety

Both the ocean and the in-shore oilskins have:

- Jacket with inside zipper
- smoke with latex collar
- matching long johns

The ideal gear for facing the most challenging oceans is made with 5 layers:

1. first layer: on the skin
2. second layer: thermoregulating
3. pile: for warmth
4. insulated oilskins: to keep the body warm and protect it from humidity
5. ocean oilskins: to keep the water out, protect the body from shocks, etc.

SLAM, FRANCK CAMMAS, GROUPAMA AND THE VICTORIES TOGETHER

Franck Cammas, French ocean-going sailor, is one of the modern sailors who since he has been a SLAM testimonial (2007) has had a steady stream of incredible successes and has even been awarded the "Grand Prix de l'Académie des Sports", one of the most prestigious awards for a sports person and whose list of champions include names of the calibre of Roger Federer, Usain Bolt and Micheal Schumacher. Cammas won the record of the Transat Jacques Vabre, in 2010 he was victorious in the Route de Rhum, also gaining the record at Sevenstar, the race around the Isle of Wight. Lastly, he also took the record in the Jules Verne Trophy the round the world without a stopover raced at an average of 18.76 knots, and beating the previous record by a whopping two days, 8 hours and 35 minutes. A series of successes that have brought him now to take up the challenge of the "Everest of Sailing": the Round the World race for sailing teams in legs, the prestigious Volvo Ocean Race 2011-2012. Groupama and Franck Cammas will set out from Alicante (Spain) on 29 October 2011

and will cover 39270 nautical miles to arrive in Galway, Ireland after 9 months of sailing round the world.

VOLVO OCEAN RACE: AN ADVENTURE GREAT SAILORS DREAM OF

The Volvo Ocean Race 2011-2012 is about to begin! The toughest sailing regatta in the world which takes place every 4 years will start in the Spanish port of Alicante on 29 October 2011 and finish in Galway in Ireland in July 2012. On the way, the race will visit Cape Town (South Africa), Abu Dhabi (UAE), Sanya (China), Auckland (New Zealand), Itajaí (Brazil), Miami (USA), Lisbon (Portugal), and Lorient (France). The so-called In-Port Race will take place in each port, which will allow spectators and sailing buffs to watch the race close-up. The following day, the teams will go back to racing the long legs on the ocean. The race is a marathon on the seas lasting over eight months, passing through four oceans and five continents. In this lapse of time the boats will cover over 39,000 nautical miles around the world in the harshest conditions, which only the ocean can present.

The first edition of this sporting adventure was inspired by the achievements of two sailors of the past century, Sir Francis Chichester and Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, who were famous around the world for their singlehanded circumnavigations. Their successes inevitably led to planning a fully crewed race around the world. This formula was first applied in 1973 in the world race named Whitbread the World Race. It was the longest, most demanding, and most dangerous race known until then.

The version named Volvo Ocean Race was first held in 2001-02. Today it is considered the Everest of sailing.

The race will be contested by 11-strong crews of professional sailors, who will not only have to have great competitive spirit but also physical endurance, which will be put to the test night and day for over 20 consecutive days for each leg. Each sailor on board has a specific role. Some have a medical background, some are sailmakers, and some are engineers who are also familiar with the media. These last ones will take photos and shoot videos while on board in order to fully-render the conditions experienced during the race. The sailing teams of the Volvo Ocean Race must have exceptional sailing and seamanship skills. Today the teams sail the oceans of the world on state-of-the-art Volvo Open 70s and the winner is the team which is able to find a balance between the highest speeds and the capability of the boat to withstand the unpredictable conditions of the oceans.

The sailing teams experience temperatures ranging from -15 to +40 degrees Celsius over the course of the race. Their ability to adjust to these temperatures is essential, and in this field SLAM will give its contribution with its technical gear, conceived to provide the greatest comfort in severe conditions.

THE BOATS: <http://www.volvoceanrace.com/en/Boat-Design/4/race.html>
VOR 70s (seventy-footers) are used.

Official website of the event: <http://www.volvoceanrace.com>



Volvo Ocean Race 2011-12 racing schedule

| Event | Location | Start Date | Estimated Finish Date | Distance nm* |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| In-Port Race | Alicante | Saturday 29 October 2011 | | |
| Pro-Am Race | Alicante | Sunday 30 October 2011 | | |
| Leg 1 | Alicante to Cape Town | Saturday 5 November 2011 | 25-Nov-11 | 6500 |
| Pro-Am Race | Cape Town | Friday 9 December 2011 | | |
| In-Port Race | Cape Town | Saturday 10 December 2011 | | |
| Leg 2 | Cape Town to Abu Dhabi | Sunday 11 December 2011 | 01-Jan-12 | 5430 |
| Pro-Am Race | Abu Dhabi | Thursday 12 January 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Abu Dhabi | Friday 13 January 2012 | | |
| Leg 3 | Abu Dhabi to Sanya | Saturday 14 January 2012 | 04-Feb-12 | 4600 |
| Pro-Am Race | Sanya | Friday 17 February 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Sanya | Saturday 18 February 2012 | | |
| Leg 4 | Sanya to Auckland | Sunday 19 February 2012 | 08-Mar-12 | 5220 |
| Pro-Am Race | Auckland | Friday 16 March 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Auckland | Saturday 17 March 2012 | | |
| Leg 5 | Auckland to Itajaí | Sunday 18 March 2012 | 04-Apr-12 | 6705 |
| Pro-Am Race | Itajaí | Friday 20 April 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Itajaí | Saturday 21 April 2012 | | |
| Leg 6 | Itajaí to Miami | Sunday 22 April 2012 | 06-May-12 | 4800 |
| Pro-Am Race | Miami | Friday 18 May 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Miami | Saturday 19 May 2012 | | |
| Leg 7 | Miami to Lisbon | Sunday 20 May 2012 | 31-May-12 | 3590 |
| Pro-Am Race | Lisbon | Friday 8 June 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Lisbon | Saturday 9 June 2012 | | |
| Leg 8 | Lisbon to Lorient | Sunday 10 June 2012 | 17-Jun-12 | 1940 |
| Pro-Am Race | Lorient | Friday 29 June 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Lorient | Saturday 30 June 2012 | | |
| Leg 9 | Lorient to Galway | Sunday 1 July 2012 | 03-Jul-12 | 485 |
| Pro-Am Race | Galway | Friday 6 July 2012 | | |
| In-Port Race | Galway | Saturday 7 July 2012 | | |
| Reserve Day | Galway | Sunday 8 July 2012 | | |

*nautical miles

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