

Southern Wind 100 Zefiro shows her strong soul at 2013 Rolex Sydney-Hobart edition



Rolex Sydney Hobart is considered to be one of the most difficult races in the world. Most of the yachts attending this blue water regatta are fully decked out and dedicated ocean racing yachts but Southern Wind 100 *Zefiro*, finishing the race as 13th from 94 competitors and 10 retired, has disclosed to everybody her performance soul.

Zefiro's arrival time was three days, six minutes and nineteen seconds: an excellent result for a cruising yacht such as a Southern Wind 100 footer.

Gerhard Ruether, owner of *Zefiro* is extremely satisfied with the result and reported to us:

*"The Sydney Hobart race is my lifetime dream which has materialized. As you know our competitors are built for races, are of extremely light displacement and it was therefore clear that we could only have won the race if we had strong headwinds and large seas through which our relatively heavy yacht could push through. This only happened towards the end of the race: the last 8 hours before the finish we had the weather for which the Sydney Hobart Race is known. In Stormy Bay we had 45 knots, in gusts over 50 Knots with very big seas which *Zefiro* took well. My goal was to arrive safe and sound without injuries to the crew and no damages to the yacht and material. This was achieved, the crew was excellent, the camaraderie great and we can now turn to new adventures."*

Zefiro owner's aim when building his yacht is to circumnavigate the world:

"For me, performance is very important, but my main objective is a yacht capable to complete a circumnavigation, so it must be many things besides fast. It should be quiet and subdued, a place where friends can relax and enjoy good conversation and comradeship"

With the Sydney Hobart experience he could entirely benefit the sense of performance in comfort and safety. Zefiro next stop will be Melbourne, then Albany, Perth and Broome. Once left the Australian west coast she will sail to Bali, Singapore Phuket a Myanmar gaining the record to be the first Southern Wind to touch this land.