Interview with Francois Gabart, after foiling with iFLY15 at Foiling Week Garda

Around The World single handed record holder Interview translated from French

question:

Francois, you tried the iFLY yesterday after racing. What was the feeling from your point of view?

Francois Gabart :

« yes, I went out with the iFLY at the end of the day. It was really great. It is a new boat that I didn't know so far. Very stable, extraordinary stable. It is extremely interesting, because You immediately see the accessibility of the boat. Almost for anyone, who does a little bit of sailing. You just jump on the boat and it is stable flying. It is even flying in light winds. In my opinion a great boat to access flying on the water / foiling. »

Francois Gabart :

« I also see potential for even further development on the boat. There could be added some more righting moment can still be increased e.g. by pulling out lift on the windward foil. This is promising ... Let's see how this will evolve in the years to come. »

question: In terms of speed, you took it easy, You did not push it to the limits...

Francois Gabart :

« What's for sure, it is easy. The boat is easy to control. As a matter of fact. At the rudder, it goes straight in a civilized way. I had sailed the Flying Phantom just before. An extraordinary boat and going even way faster, but it requires a lot more work. However on iFLY15, it is true that there is really nothing to do. There is just to let the boat go by itself, stabilize itself, and this is super enjoyable. »

question:

So, a great feeling and potential to go even faster?

Francois Gabart :

« Yes, absolutely. And then I think the big, big highlight is it's accessibility. It's true, and it's an important issue. Because today only some few sailors have the chance to fly on the water, but we must try to democratize as much as possible, and that as many people as possible can experience that awesome sensation of flying. It's great, and this is indeed one of the boats allowing it. »