

RAPHAËLA LE GOUVELLO

Traversée en solitaire de l'Océan Indien



Paris, monday 1st April 2006

PRESS RELEASE

Teaching kit launched for Raphaëla le Gouvello's crossing

Raphaëla le Gouvello is windsurfing for the planet. In one week's time, she will set off to windsurf solo and unaided across the Indian Ocean. For this modern-day odyssey, the Breton lady windsurfer launched a teaching kit on 30 March, designed for young pupils. The objective of this operation, backed by Lyonnaise des Eaux and SUEZ, is to sensitize 8-12 year-olds, and prepare them for the main environmental issues of the beginning of the 21st century.

A kit for discovering and understanding: Throughout Raphaëla's adventure and thanks to this teaching kit, pupils and teachers will be able to tackle several main themes in the classroom. These include water, of course, but also the earth and the climate, fauna and biodiversity, onboard technologies and daily life on the surfboard. All in all, there are 30 specialized cards that have been designed and prepared, some of them in collaboration with Ifremer, Oceanopolis, Aide et Action and the Ligue de Protection des Oiseaux (society of the protection of birds). This kit has been validated by a group of teachers and offers all teachers a way to help their students understand the notion of sustainable development in an original, recreational way. These cards will enable students to better understand the importance of the water cycle, the role of the oceans in climate regulation, and managing waste or saving energy. The kit will also be a fantastic invitation to travel across the Indian Ocean and to discover Australia and Reunion Island, with its coral reefs and marine mammals. In order to make the cards available to as wide a public as possible, they can be consulted via the Internet from Raphaëla's official website: www.raphaëla-legouvello.com and from www.respectocean.com.

Mobilizing future generations: Thanks to the Internet and the English version of the site that will be online in April, this crossing will be the opportunity for students from Perth in Australia, from Saint-Denis on Reunion Island and from Pénestin in Morbihan, France, to work together for the first time on this international teaching kit. This informal twinning will enable the youngsters to build a common project based on the values conveyed by Raphaëla, and thus symbolize her desire to see future generations mobilized to protect the blue planet.

Lyonnaise des Eaux

Lyonnaise des Eaux, SUEZ Group, employs 8 550 collaborators, supplies 14 million inhabitants with drinking water and treats the wastewater produced by around 9 million people in France. The company puts its clients at the centre of its concerns and carries out its actions and projects with a view to sustainable development.

SUEZ The international industrial and services group SUEZ designs its sustainable and innovative solutions for the management of public utility services, as a partner of communities, companies and individuals, and meets their essential needs concerning electricity and gas supplies, and energy, water and hygiene services.

Footnote about Raphaëla le Gouvello's crossing: Departing from Exmouth (north west Australia) on Wednesday 5 April for an approximated 3500 nautical mile (6300 km) crossing to Reunion Island. The voyage is estimated to take 70-75 days, by sailboard, solo and unaided.

The kit will be promoted by an advertising banner on all the "tf1.fr" pages for 3 months starting from today and until 21 June, as well as on the site "plurielles.fr" via Raphaëla's blog, that she will write during the crossing.

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