

Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge Update: Day 2 - May 5, 2009

The second day of the Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge has seen the fleet progress well down the route towards Tenerife. Kruzenshtern (Russia) is holding on to her lead on corrected time both overall and in her class, with Tecla (Netherlands) in second and Jolie Brise (UK) in third. The placings for the second group of Class C and D vessels have changed slightly with Rona II (UK) taking up the lead on corrected time from Urania (Netherlands) in second and Peter von Danzig (Germany) in third.

On the water, Rona II is in the lead with just 503 nautical miles to go to the finish line. Very close behind is Peter von Danzig with 507 nautical miles. Etoile, Belle Poule, Urania and Jolie Brise have all taken a slightly more westerly course, while Xsaar is hugging the coast of Portugal. Rona II and Urania are evenly matched vessels and it is interesting that *Urania* has decided to take a more westerly route to, presumably, benefit from stronger winds. It will be interesting to see if this strategy pays off over the next couple of days as the race progresses.

The winds look set to continue from a general northerly direction of around 10kts over the next couple of days, with a 1-1.7m swell from the north north west.

The Dutch vessel Tecla has reported that they have some seasickness on board because of the swell, but that the trainees are already on the mend.

The fleet tracking software is now operational and shows the actual positions of the fleet as at 1400 hrs GMT today. A further update will be posted tomorrow at the same time:

<http://www.tallshipsraces.com/mapping/>

The list of all the vessels positions on corrected time can be seen in the Vessel Positions Update: <http://www.tallshipsraces.com/results>

Further images are available from the Picture Gallery:

<http://www.sailtraininginternational.org/page.asp?partid=20>

The Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge is organised by Sail Training International with the American Sail Training Association.