

I'm very very happy! It's a great pleasure to be on SOL podium again at the end of such a demanding leg as the Christmas is. It is as well a great pleasure to be there together with aner59 who is a friend of mine :-).

The race has been very tactical during the first week, when the fleet started to divide into three different groups: one immediately heading south (ital0267, SCARABOCCHIO and Sassy between them), one keeping the middle course ( me, aner59, BS1, yuyu, solaris etc), and a lot of the big solers (as rumskib, Dingo, number1, hmm...etc) pointing decisively for the north option, the winning one of last year edition. I think that in a race like this use of the router is not so much important as intuition and good luck are, cause of the always changing wx.

Indeed, in the second part of the leg I chose together with Aner what was at that point the south option even if router kept saying to pass just south of Philippines...but that meant to follow boats clearly ahead; I then started to pray Aeolus not to put calm water on our way to Papua New Guinea, while in the northern canal often the wind blows against the direction of our course, which thing would have forced me to spend too much time in front of pc. From then on, I must acknowledge that everything was very easy and I've been very lucky on many aspect, as I could sleep every single night!! Anyway Solers, never forget the SOL main motto: HOLD ON, KEEP HOLDING ON!!!

la Franci