

RainbowChaser specially came to Moscow to ask questions of little-known SOLer kenza (*ed note – via email!*)

**RC:** How did you plan to race around the Turkish coastline this time?  
**kenza:** Two days before the start I began to follow the changes in Wx. I was searching for the best route to the Bosphorus. The general trend was clear, and the nuances changed every forecast. It was not possible to plan far in the future. I studied the list of participants, explained to the cat that we had to prepare to race, and during the week we would have a spartan diet. I was searching for songs about the Black Sea.

The main pre-race: motivation, mood, lack of annoying factors in the cat.

**RC:** Are you always online for weather updates?

**kenza:** I try not to miss a weather update. The hardest part for me - forecast 04:30 UTC. At 07:30 am Moscow. I quickly get used to the sound of alarms clocks... But then I had an alarm sounding like a ship siren and put it 7 meters away so I had to go to turn it off.. Even simpler... I began to wake up naturally, five minutes before the alarm clock. The urge not to wake up everyone in the house was stronger than the desire to sleep.

**RC:** Do you import polar data to a spreadsheet to study it more closely before a race?

**kenza:** I do not do that.

About six years ago, I was surprised by the fact that WINSTON\_4 does all his race calculations in the spreadsheet. And I'm losing to him! Often. Perhaps this is the magic of spreadsheets. For me, it's too hard, I'm a lazy programmer. I use the data that comes from the official SailOnLine server and process it in my own program for the analysis of the boat polars. (the same data is available to everyone on the brainaid website)

**RC:** This race had three clear sections - did you plan each section separately?

**kenza:** Three sections is too simple... for me, there were more.

1. Black Sea to the Cape of Sinop. Feature Race 2015. Do not sleep! Here the foundation is laid for the race.

2. Sinop - Bosphorus. Be sure to get enough sleep.

3. Bosphorus. It is important to pass without loss. For me it was a very good time 11:46 MSK

4. Sea of Marmara. You must sleep at the entrance to the Dardanelles. Thereafter you will not have many chances to sleep...

5. Dardanelles - Samos (lighthouse Karakol). Then you do not sleep.

6. To Antalya. The tragic stage. Here I would lose the race. A brilliant maneuver Dingo and Franci. They were just unlucky with the weather. And I slept ...

7. Sleep to finish.

**RC:** What are your rules for racing in a narrow space like the Bosphorus straits and Dardanelles?

**kenza:** Do not use the DC - only manual operations. No sleep. Do not eat - food relaxes you too much.

**RC:** Have you sailed in Turkish waters in reality? If so, when was it and what were you sailing in?

**kenza:** Unfortunately, I never sailed in the Turkish coastal waters.

But as a child, I was carried away from shore in a rubber lifebuoy very far from the Black Sea coasts. It was fun for me: border guards, police ... If I had not been caught, probably I might have reached Turkey.

**RC:** At what point did you realise that victory here was yours?

**kenza:** After the weather forecast before turning at Antalya. Although my position in the race was quite confident after the Cape of Sinop on the Black Sea.

**RC:** Do you have something to say in conclusion?

**kenza:** Take care of the psychological health of your loved ones and pets - they just do not understand that the race on Sailonline most important.

foto session: for obvious reasons (everyone loves cats) here is a pic of the ship's cat, sprat:



best regards, kenza

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