Race report Southampton to Uruguay by StIngFI


It's always difficult to recall every event in a race after 3 weeks of sailing.

One event I remember though. In the early stages, outside Brest in France, on the night of July 6, I did a fortunate and unintentional SLI-jump (hope I'm not disqualified). As I write this, WINDEGG is still BBQ:ing on that same island.

On July 16 there was a couple of contradictional WX:es. Every 6 hours the router suggested a change between 218 – 205 deg.

This was the first race I didn't miss a WX, and I never set any alarm. That was until the disaster with Brainaid's WX service. After that I relied on a couple of gribfiles from Jawz, posted on the forum. When he stopped updating I had to find some myself. As I always relied on Brainaid's site I had never investigated the possibility to download Gribfiles from public sites. The main reason being the "smoothing" SOL (and Brainaid) does, which eliminates the need of other source, at least on short term routing.
Anyway, now the need was obvious. I found this http://www.globalmarinenet.com/free-grib-file-downloads/ and used the" Argentina" part.

I didn't investigate any closer how detailed these files was, but obviously accurate enough as I managed to keep away from WINSTON (barely) the last 2 days to the finish line.

As he commented on the last reach to finish, he managed to gain 14 of my 15 min lead over him.


"Long Island"
July30
StIngFI