SOL’s first VO70 was first raced in a sprint round Guadeloupe in 2008, an interesting if atypical course for what at the time were the World’s fastest monohulls. The polar used was based on the 2006 version 2 Rule, the same the IRL yachts that started the 2008-09 VOR had been designed to, and that the SOL yachts starting the 2008-09 Sailonline Ocean Race (SOR) were going to use, all departing Alicante, two months later. Halfway round the World in 2009, SOL’s original polar morphed into v4, and two years later ahead of the next IRL edition, VOR’s v2 morphed into v3. So... just to be clear, SOL’s VO70v4 polar is for VOR’s v2 Rule!

Volvo no longer races the VO70 round the World, and this is probably wise. The design’s canting keel technology was in its infancy at the time, and each boat built was a one-off prototype, inevitably overtrading clear performance gains for much less certain seaworthiness impact. Best then to race the beast online only.

Racelist