

## Press Release



### **CLS, partner of La Solitaire 2008, to equip all competitors with beacons**

*CLS will monitor the sailing boats in the 2008 Solitaire du Figaro event throughout the entire race. Each boat is equipped with a "MARYI" tracking and assistance beacon. These beacons are the most important components in satellite systems operated by CLS, including satellite constellations, ground receiving antenna and data processing centres. The beacons regularly transmit a message providing information concerning the boat's location. Using this tracking system, the race PC can confirm the ranking for each boat, provide the general public with maps and also improve the skippers' safety at sea.*

For more than 10 years, CLS has provided monitoring systems for boats in the mythical race CLS, world leader of satellite-based data collection, installs leaktight and stand-alone beacons on each boat. Attached to the stern on a stanchion, the beacons transmit a message to the satellite, which, in turn, sends it to a network of ground antenna. This message is then transmitted to a CLS processing centre that operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is this processing centre at CLS Head Office that then decodes the racers positions and delivers the results to the race PC.

CLS, a subsidiary of CNES (Centre national d'études spatiales), IFREMER (Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer) and various French banks, offers satellite-based services for environmental data collection, location and ocean observation to a diverse range of professionals: institutions, scientists, industrial groups etc. Within this context, CLS has forged close ties with the largest international space agencies, such as CNES, NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and enjoys EUMESAT (European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites) support. The company is the global operator of the Argos system and has some 300 collaborators: 225 in the Head Office in France and 75 in its offices and subsidiaries throughout the world.

CLS has particularly close ties with explorers and adventurers; skippers from the Solitaire du Figaro like Nicolas Troussel, extreme environment explorers such as Jean-Louis Etienne, science travellers like Stéphane Lévin or navigator like Maud Fontenoy. CLS provides them all with the required equipment and continuously monitors their progress.

### **Press Contact :**

Amélie PROUST  
Tel.00 33 5 61 39 37 95  
Port. 0 33 6 62 80 45 92  
[aproust@cls.fr](mailto:aproust@cls.fr)

CLS  
8-10 rue Hermès  
Parc Technologique  
du Canal  
31520 Ramonville  
France  
05.61.39.47.00  
05.61.39. 37.91  
[www.cls.fr](http://www.cls.fr)