

**Earthrace eco-boat powers into Hawaii ahead of world record**



**London/Hawaii, 20 May 2008:**  
Earthrace, the world's fastest eco-boat, will power into Hawaii on Wednesday 21 May as part of its attempt to break the round-the-world speed record for a powerboat. The boat will stop for refuelling on Oahu rather than Maui, as previously planned, for logistical reasons.

Skipper Pete Bethune and his crew are currently over 1400 nautical miles ahead of the pace set by the round-the-world record-holder, Cable and Wireless, in 1998.

Earthrace is a 24m tri-hull wavepiercer that is currently in day 24 of its attempt to smash the world record for a powerboat to circumnavigate the globe, running renewable biodiesel fuel, and with a net zero carbon footprint.

The 24,000 nautical mile route has so far taken in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and the crew has already overcome obstacles such as fuel leakages and a huge backlog of traffic in the Panama Canal.

"We've been blasting through the North Pacific at an average speed of 20 knots for the past five days," says Bethune, who auctioned off his home to fund the USD 3m project. "This leg has been the longest of the trip so far, and we've managed to maintain a massive lead on the world record despite having to deal with a potentially lethal water leakage in the fuel tank.

"The boat's now performing at the top of her game and weather conditions have been optimum. We're looking forward to a swift refuelling in Maui and then it's on to the Marshall Islands.

"The goal of Earthrace is to show the world that the best technology can also be sustainable. Earthrace stopping here along the race route will be a chance for the people of Hawaii to see an example of a vehicle that is 100% carbon neutral but does not skimp on performance or design."

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**Notes to editors:**

High resolution, copyright-free photographs and video footage are available to download from our FTP site: <ftp://assets.earthrace.net>

Please contact [news@earthrace.net](mailto:news@earthrace.net) for login details.

# PRESS RELEASE



## **About Earthrace**

Earthrace is a 24m (78ft) tri-hull wavepiercer that has been designed and built specifically to get the record for a powerboat to circumnavigate the globe. She is an advanced endurance vessel, capable of submarining up to 7m (23ft) underwater as she powers across oceans.

The goal of Earthrace is to set a new world record for a powerboat to circumnavigate the globe, running 100% renewable biodiesel fuel, and with a net zero carbon footprint.

From the start in Sagunto, the boat will cross the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans and travel through the Panama and Suez Canals as it thunders around the planet's circumference at a maximum speed of 40 knots, attempting to break the round-the-world speed record. The full record route is as follows:

Sagunto (Spain) – Horta (Azores) – San Juan (Puerto Rico) – Colon (Panama Canal, Panama) – Manzanillo (Mexico) – San Diego (USA) – Maalaea Harbor, Maui (Hawaii) – Majuro (Marshall Islands) – Koror (Palau) – Singapore – Kochi/Cochin (India) – Salalah (Oman) – Port Said (Suez Canal, Egypt) – Sagunto (Spain)

Earthrace is run as a not-for-profit venture, with a boat, ground and London HQ crew made up of international volunteers.

You can find out in real time exactly where Earthrace is now by going to [www.earthrace.net](http://www.earthrace.net) and clicking on the 'Where is Earthrace' globe.

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