

FB DESIGN srl

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A RECORD IN TECHNOLOGY

There are 1141 nautical miles between Venice and Monte Carlo.

Fabio Buzzi had, until recently, the record in 23h 55 ', with the average of 43 knots.

But progress and technology advance, and here we have a new amazing record, this time written by Mario Invernizzi that left Montecarlo on Sunday morning September 25th and arrived in Venice after 22h 13' 17" with an average speed of 51.346 knots.

Why is this record so important?

Because of the high technology that made it possible. Let's see it.

First of all, the engines. The ones from Buzzi's record were two Isotta Fraschini V12, 1300 HP, 20 litres with mechanical fuel injection.

Mario Invernizzi's engines are two "small" FPT Industrial, 6 cylinders 9 litres with 650 HP and Common Rail injection.

This is the sensational side, to beat a world record by 4 nodes is already news, but to beat it with a hull of the same size, consuming 5355 litres instead of 10800 is the truly exceptional aspect. Especially at a time of heavy crisis in the marine industry, where everybody is going against the absurd consumption of certain hulls.

Cursor 90 were exceptional, with their Common Rail system (invented by Fiat).

The high technology is also found in the FB48 STAB hull, where Stab means a pneumatic system on the side of the hull, to stabilize it, but also to recuperate the energy. How does that work?

Just like a basketball, bouncing back to its starting point, retaining much of the potential energy, after it is converted into kinetic and then into elastic when it touches the ground.

Similarly, Mario Invernizzi's Kerakoll, after each hop on the water due to the inevitable wave, recovers its energy and consumes a lot less.

In fact, one refuelling in Messina was enough and the Kerakoll made it to Venice, covering the remaining 630 miles and still had 180 gallons of diesel left!

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Here are revealed the secrets of the new FB Design hull, but on board the high technology was everywhere, with a series of satellites that revolved around this exceptional boat.

Suffice it to say that all the way the hull was followed by live satellite system produced by Navimeteo. You just had to click on their website www.mybluetraker.com to follow live the Kerakoll during its adventure.

In fact, every 15 minutes the satellite reported path, speed and course and the boat's trace on the computer, allowing the base of operations to follow every movement.

Also the navigation system had 3 chart plotters by Raymarine and Navionics maps.

What about navigation at night?

At night time visibility was perfect, thanks to Starlight Italia incredible light amplification system, which reported on a special screen, a perfect image even in a moonless night.

As spare was also used a FLIR night vision and a second radar, whereby Kerakoll did not have to slow down his pace a single node, even in a night without moon.

Lots of pilots and boat builders were interested in making this record. Four previous attempts failed during 2011, even Mario Invernizzi was at his second attempt. During the first one, exactly 10 days before, three propellers broke and had to be replaced in water until they ran out of spare ones and they had to give up in Reggio Calabria.

But Fabio Buzzi has certainly not given up and, sure of his friendship with Alfredo Radice, undisputed Italian magician of propellers, was able to get four new ones, stronger and more efficient, within a week.

This is why we can call it "the Record of the Records".

Of course, the more praise goes to the crew: Mario Invernizzi, driver, businessman from Lecco, Antonio Binda head mechanic of FB Design and Peter Dredge an expert English navigator always tied to FB Design.

What about Roberto Rizzo? He is the indispensable coordinator of computer technology throughout the boat, from maps to computers, from radios to satellite systems and Navimeteo. He also ran the galley aboard with competence.

Here is a beautiful record, all Italian and ecologically-friendly for its incredible energy savings.

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