

Press release - November 4th, 2020

Vendée Globe 2020

The professional esport team MCES and CORUM L'Epargne are partnering on Virtual Regatta!

A major player in esport in France, MCES reinforces its "sport and esport" positioning by participating in the online version of the *Vendée Globe* race with the boat CORUM L'Epargne. This partnership is one more step in the development of esport on Virtual Regatta, the world's leading nautical racing simulation game.

Just 4 months after the launch of its Virtual Regatta team, MCES will participate in the *Vendée Globe 2020* and will represent the boat CORUM L'Epargne engaged in the traditional race with the skipper Nicolas Troussel.

On the MCES side, five of the world's best e-skippers will take the online start of this legendary single-handed race around the world.

## Presentation of MCES Virtual Regatta players :

- Laurent Schaeffer « Luxairfrance » ; ranking : 1<sup>st</sup> world player Offshore mode
- Thierry Brichet « Tipapachéri » ; ranking : 2nd world player Offshore mode
- Pascale Grobety « Buddha » ; ranking : 3rd world player Offshore mode
- Tim Carpentier « Pépito » ; unclassified.
- Baptiste Gully « LaMerNoire » ; unclassified.

In order to have a complete team of 10 players and thus participate in the team ranking, 5 other players will join the CORUM MCES Savings team.

With such a selection of players, MCES CORUM l'Epargne clearly shows its ambitions: to seek a top world ranking in this 2020 edition of the Vendée Globe.

Jérôme Trogant « Trog », MCES Virtual Regatta Manager, left nothing to chance: « *My selection of players was of course based on their level of play but also taking into account their competitive mentality. We are implementing a complete support program: preparation of the competitions, bootcamp in Marseille, training planning, analysis and debriefing of the competitions.... We have great ambitions since all our players are aiming for the top of the ranking for this mythical race!* »

From their home, each of his e-skippers will have a very strong rhythm to hope for the first place. Indeed, in order to take into account the weather parameters (identical to the real conditions) and to be able to adjust their strategies (trajectory, choice of sail), they will have to log on every two hours. The nights promise to be short for the MCES players and the race promises to be of a rare intensity also on the game!

« Taking part in the Vendée Globe on Virtual Regatta is a huge personal challenge and will be the highlight of the season. My preparation started several weeks ago, with a real sailing practice to help me on the game but also to approach the race in the best possible physical condition. Representing the CORUM L'Epargne boat is an additional motivation. We are one team, and we are about to live an incredible experience together! » enthuses Tim Carpentier « Pépito ».

See you on Sunday 8th November for the MCES e-skippers, at the very moment when the sea adventurers will set off from Les Sables-d'Olonne for a single-handed, unassisted, non-stop round-the-world trip!

## About MCES :

MCES is a major player in esport in France (with subsidiaries in Italy and Morocco) whose objectives are to develop amateur and professional practice. The amateur aspect is reflected in the development of high-quality Gaming Centers for ideal esports practice. These spaces are open in the MonClub 2.0 sports centers in Marseille and Z5 (Zidane Sport Concept) in Aix-en-Provence. Other openings are being studied in the main French cities. The MCES Academy and MCES Stages offers are organized within these play areas, as well as in Toulouse and Bordeaux in partnership with the EGS school and in Paris with the Paris University Club. This allows the concrete implementation of the association of sport and esport, which is the DNA of the MCES project.

On the professional side, MCES's will is to win titles on the games League of Legends (French LFL championship), Fortnite (players at the highest European

level), FIFA (in co-production with the LOSC football club Lille), Clash of Clans (2019 vice-world champion title), Virtual Regatta, Brawl Stars, Rocket League and NBA 2K.

The MCES method is to provide all the services necessary for players to improve their performance (practice of sport, diet monitoring, neuro-cognitive performance tests, stress management, etc.). This method is defined and applied by Yannick Agnel, MCES sports director and two-time Olympic swimming champion.

## About Virtual Regatta :

Virtual Regatta is an online game publisher founded in 2006 by former French professional skipper Philippe Guigné. Based in France, Virtual Regatta develops multi-player regatta or offshore racing simulation games, notably Virtual Regatta Offshore and Virtual Regatta Inshore.

Virtual Regatta Offshore simulates the weather conditions encountered by the skippers during each major offshore sailing race and allows its players to participate in real time from their computer, smartphone or tablet, choosing the best settings for their vessel (sails and course). Virtual Regatta organizes about fifty races per year, including the Vendée Globe, the Route du Rhum...

Virtual Regatta Inshore is a real-time multi-player short regatta simulation on technical courses, upwind and downwind, allowing players from all over the world to get together on regattas lasting about 5 minutes. This simulation follows to the letter the official "Virtual Racing Rules of Sailing" developed with the International Sailing Federation, which has been awarding the title of "eSailing World Champion" every year since 2018.

# About CORUM L'Épargne :

Since 2011, the CORUM Group has been managing and marketing real estate savings and business credit products for individual and institutional savers. The CORUM group manages more than 3 billion euros in assets and nearly 50,000 customers. It develops a pragmatic and innovative approach to meet the needs of those who want dynamic, accessible and understandable savings solutions. The CORUM Group also offers all its savings products exclusively in a life insurance contract, CORUM Life, launched in 2020.

Performance, commitment and risk management are values expressed by sailing. Since its creation, CORUM L'Epargne has made these values its DNA. By committing to skipper Nicolas Troussel since 2018 and over 4 years, CORUM L'Épargne wishes to share their common vision with the general public. Nicolas Troussel has a thirst for victory and a strong independent spirit, and the company wanted to associate his image with a sport and a sailor who share and embody its values.

Nicolas Troussel will start the Vendée Globe on a latest-generation boat, an IMOCA 60 whose design began in 2019, and which was launched in May 2020. A concentrate of innovations, it has been designed and engineered for maximum reliability and performance.

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