Reporting committee: ITC

FURLING SYSTEM WITH POWERED ASSISTANCE

PROPOSAL

Permit the use of powered furling systems (electric or hydraulic) in the ORC rule, with an appropriate rating adjustment.

RATIONALE

Powered furling is already an industry standard in offshore sailing. It allows safe, reliable sail reduction in heavy weather, reducing crew risk and making the sport more accessible. Manual furling under load is unsafe and impractical for many teams on many boat designs. Many larger yachts have power-integrated furling systems that allow for manually operation only in emergency circumstances – manual use when racing is nearly impossible.

By integrating this into the rule with rating adjustments, ORC modernizes its approach and reflects best practice.