



First mission accomplished...bow section is ready

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As the fleet enjoys glorious conditions heading south, Team Delta Lloyd has its own race against the clock. However, the first mission is accomplished... The Italian company Eligio Re Fraschini finished the new bow section. The job was done after one week of dedicated work by Fabio Rusconi and Alessandro Servadei. The panel is due to arrive in Rio on March 7th. Meanwhile, the shore team is getting ready for the big challenge in Brazil.

Today's ultrasound test concluded the building process of the bow section. On Saturday, Rusconi reported that they had finished the lamination work by applying the peel-ply: "This layer of fabrics generally comes at the end of the lamination. The rough surface is perfectly suitable for the painting or, in this case, for the overlapping with carbon during the repair in Rio. It offers a better connection." On Wednesday, the panel will start its long journey to Rio. It will first be flown to Sao Paulo and from there the trip continues by truck to Rio. Estimated arrival time is March 7.

The Delta Lloyd is expected to arrive on March 11 and according to Technical Manager Mike Danks, the container ship is supposed to be on time. Danks' job list is quite long, but he says everything is moving on well: "I am ordering parts and making sure that things will be ready when we get to Rio." However, the shipping of all the necessary materials remains the biggest challenge. "Hopefully we have a good plan and people in place. At the moment, it seems that all the parts will be in time." But Danks knows how to deal with this kind of jobs: "I have done it before on an America's Cup yacht. It is just about good planning and making sure that we have all the materials we need."

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