



Press Release n.4 – 2016 July 11

- **2016 Palermo-Montecarlo: supermaxi USA Rambler 88's challenge**
- **Story and victories of one of the most admired offshore sailing boat of the past few years**
- **Esimit Europa 2's record (47 hours 46 minutes, established in 2015) is now at risk**
- **The number of participants at Regatta is increasing. Circolo della Vela Sicilia is going to announce its boat**

2016 Palermo-Montecarlo, starting next August 21st from Mondello Gulf, will be joined by one of the world's most beautiful sailing boats: Circolo della Vela Sicilia has just registered the supermaxi Rambler 88, of the USA ship-owner George David. Rambler 88's enrollment seriously threatens the record of the Regatta, of 47 hours, 46 minutes and 48 seconds to complete the 500 miles itinerary, precisely established in the 2015 edition by Igor Simcic's 100 feet Esimit Europa 2 outdoing itself.

Besides the record, seeing Rambler 88 on the Palermo-Montecarlo start line will be very exciting and it confirms the always growing bond with the IMA (International Maxi Association), which has included this Regatta in the IMA Mediterranean Maxi Offshore Challenge's Agenda, with Rolex Middle Sea Race, Rolex Ghiraglia e Volcano Race.

Rambler 88, built in 2014 entirely with carbon on the project of the famous French-Argentinian architect Juan Kouyoumdjian, is one of the most innovative yachts out there. Its ship-owner, after a few 90 and 100 foot maxis, has commissioned a shorter hull but still able to compete with the biggest, thanks to a canting keel, centerboards equipped with foil, and extreme water-lines.

Amazing is also the crew, which includes America's Cup's and World Tour's sailors such as Brad Butterworth. Very famous are the past few years duels between Rambler 88 and its rival, the 100 feet Comanche, in all the world's off-shore placements, from Fastnet to Sydney-Hobart, from Middle Sea Race to Ghiraglia. Now, somebody believes the duel could repeat precisely during the Palermo-Montecarlo.

REGISTRATIONS, STILL INCREASING – The rhythm of registrations keeps intense, 45 enrolled so far, and as usual, a huge hike is expected by the end of July. Apart from Rambler 88, other registrations arrived, from the British "Infiniti 46 Maverick" to the Turkish VOR70 Black Betty, from the return of the 18 meters Junoplano to the J122 Damacle, from Blitz LNI to the 15 meters French prototype Alizée. The international rate grows: at the moment 10 is the number of countries that will be represented at the event. Meanwhile, Circolo della Vela Sicilia is about to announce its boat, again this year with a young crew from the club ready to chase the victory in corrected time.

Finally, many of the participants in the "Italian ORC National Championship", which will be held in Palermo from 26th to 30th of July, have decided to leave their boats to be ready at the start of the Palermo-Montecarlo www.palermo-montecarlo.it



www.palermo-montecarlo.it - info@palermo-montecarlo.it

Comunicazione e tv: Fabio Colivicchi Mob: +39 335 5730 361 – email: media@palermo-montecarlo.it