

Press release

Raphaël Domjan and PlanetSolar SA awarded the 2013 European Solar Prize in the Media category

28th of November 2013, Berlin (Germany) – On Friday evening, Raphaël Domjan, the originator and expedition leader of the first circumnavigation of the globe in a solar-powered boat and now President of the SolarPlanet Foundation, accompanied by Cordula Ströher, owner of MS Tûranor PlanetSolar and main shareholder in PlanetSolar SA, will receive the 2013 European Solar Prize in Berlin. The award recognised the completion in 2012 of the first solar energy-powered circumnavigation of the globe in history. Raphaël also announced that in a few weeks from now he would unveil his ambitious new solar adventure.

The prize was a wonderful reward for Raphaël Domjan and the team behind this unique adventure as well as for the crew members (Patrick Marchesseau, Erwann le Rouzic, Jens Langwasser and Christian Ochsenbein), the SolarPlanet Foundation and the sixty partners in the adventure of this first circumnavigation of the world powered only by solar energy, a voyage which took from September 2010 to May 2012. This project was also supported by France, the Principality of Monaco, Switzerland and the Cantons of Vaud and Neuchâtel.

Raphaël Domjan and his crew left Monaco on board the world's largest solar powered boat. They covered more than 60'000 km propelled only by solar energy, an achievement that illustrates the potential of solar energy, renewable energies and energy efficiency. This expedition demonstrated that all the factors were united here to showcase sustainability.

The SolarPlanet Foundation, which now promotes renewable energies in the world, is very happy and honoured by this award which enables it to remain optimistic about the future choices to be made in the field of energy consumption.

In order to allow the general public to experience something of PlanetSolar's eco-adventure, the SolarPlanet Foundation has released a 52 minute-long documentary called "A la poursuite du soleil" (Following the sun).

During the award ceremony Raphaël Domjan announced he was preparing a new and very ambitious solar adventure. After his demonstration that it is possible to rewrite the history of solar energy, now seems the right moment to go further than was previously possible with conventional energies. This new project will be officially launched in just a few weeks.

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