



PRESS RELEASE | Yverdon-les-Bains, 4 May 2022

## **First solar-powered circumnavigation**

### **H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco and Raphaël Domjan commemorate the 10th anniversary of the first solar-powered circumnavigation.**

**In the Principality of Monaco on Friday 29 April, H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco and Raphaël Domjan, Swiss eco-explorer and speaker, together commemorated the 10th anniversary of the first ever solar-powered circumnavigation. The extraordinary journey of the solar-powered catamaran, MS Tûranor PlanetSolar, took place between 2010 and 2012.**

**At an official ceremony, a commemorative plaque was unveiled near Port Hercules, the start and finish point of the expedition. Through its two-year odyssey, the solar catamaran MS Tûranor PlanetSolar demonstrated the incredible potential of renewable energy and energy efficiency. The voyage was also an opportunity to highlight the PlanetSolar Foundation's many innovative projects aimed at protecting our climate.**

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco and Raphaël Domjan unveiled the plaque on the Digue de l'Avant Port, on Friday, celebrating 10 years since the successful completion of the historic solar powered round the world voyage. MS Tûranor PlanetSolar left Monaco on the 27 September 2010 and took 565 days to travel 60,000km, crossing the Atlantic Ocean, passing through the Panama Canal, crossing the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, passing through the Suez Canal, and finally crossing the Mediterranean Sea, before returning to Monaco on the 4 May 2012. This epic journey demonstrated beyond question the infinite potential of solar energy and soft mobility.

### **The Principality of Monaco and the Swiss Confederation, partners in the solar adventure**

In addition to the many other partners who joined the solar adventure, Raphaël Domjan was able to count on the support of the Principality of Monaco and the Swiss Confederation. Convinced of the need to develop an energy transition that makes navigation less dependent on fossil fuels, and with the aim of preserving the climate and our oceans, H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco said: "This transition is an essential issue for the future of the planet. Shipping, aviation, and all other means of transport must reinvent themselves and offer environmentally friendly travel. I am delighted to contribute to this evolution."

## The legacy of the round-the-world trip

The PlanetSolar Foundation born of the first solar-powered circumnavigation, continues its commitment to promoting solar energy and combatting greenhouse gases by developing multiple innovative projects. One of these is the Adrena Ship routing software dedicated to the hybrid boats of the future. "Through the PlanetSolar project, we demonstrated that it is possible to journey around the world powered by solar energy alone. It is necessary to demonstrate that this energy is an immense opportunity for our civilisation to leave fossil fuels behind and limit climate change due to greenhouse gas emissions," said Raphaël Domjan.

### About the PlanetSolar Foundation

The PlanetSolar Foundation is a Swiss public interest Foundation committed – in Switzerland and throughout the world – to the struggle against climate change and for the protection of the environment. The common desire of its founders is to perpetuate the philosophy that presided over the PlanetSolar adventure, the first solar-powered circumnavigation (2010-2012).

The foundation promotes the development of new concepts and technologies in the field of solar energy. Its commitment spans three areas of action: Exploration, Mutual Aid and Legacy.  
<https://www.planetsolar.org>

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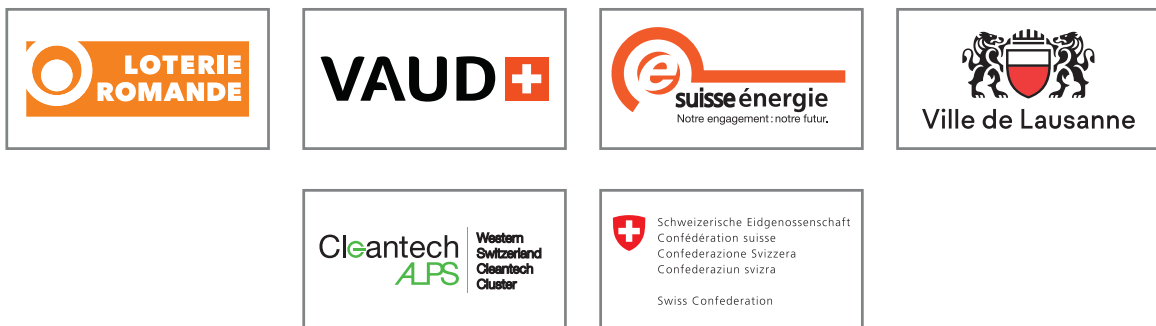
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