



RAPHAËL LUTARD ON THE STARTING LINE OF MINI-TRANSAT LA BOULANGÈRE 2019

ARKEMA
SAILING

**LALOU
MULTI**
TEAM

La Goulette
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Le Marlin

**la
mini
transat**





ARKEMA
INNOVATIVE
CHEMISTRY

MINI 6.50 ARKEMA 3: A FLYING LABORATORY

It is often said that the Mini class is an ocean racing laboratory in which technologies are developed that are later rolled out on a larger scale. The Mini 6.50 *Arkema 3* prototype, built by Lalou Multi and launched in 2016, is a perfect example of this. The hull and the deck of this 6.5 m boat were manufactured entirely from a recyclable thermoplastic composite, thanks to the Elium® resin from Arkema, infused with carbon fiber. A technological feat and a world first in boat building.

This was made possible thanks to a special relationship between the Lalou Multi team (small business run by Lalou Roucayrol specializing in ocean racing) and their partner Arkema (a leading specialty chemicals and advanced materials company), who share the same values of transmission, innovation, technological development, and performance. Other products that were successfully tried and tested on the Multi 50 *Arkema* have been retained, e.g. the Bostik® structural adhesives and the Altuglas® ShieldUp® acrylic glass.

Plenty of other novel features can be seen on the Mini 6.50 *Arkema 3*, to begin with revolutionary rigging, a thick double sail, inspired by the America's Cup yachts. The boat is also fitted with tilting foils that boost performance at certain speeds. Furthermore, a rounded stem ensures greater stability and power, while the self-supporting and swivelling bowsprit (upwind or downwind) allows a wider scope of use for the foresails.



ARKEMA

RAPHAËL LUTARD AT THE HELM

Nationality: French
Born on 26/10/1995 in Bordeaux
Lives in La Teste de Buch

2019

Record holder for La Rochelaise - La Déferlante
Record holder for La Sablaise - La Déferlante
9th in Transgascogne
7th in Mini-Fastnet
12th in Trophée Marie-Agnès Péron
10th in Pornichet Select

2018

11th in Mini en Mai
9th in Pornichet Select
10th in Plastimo Lorient Mini 6,50

The Mini 6.50 *Arkema 3* was first entrusted to Quentin Vlamynck, who completed the Mini-Transat La Boulangère 2017 race in 6th place. Now boat captain of the Multi50 since early 2018, Quentin has passed the helm on to Raphaël Lutard, who was previously involved in preparing this innovative boat, a craft he is now very familiar with after following its construction very closely. Born in the Bassin d'Arcachon area, Raphaël is taking up a major challenge in taking part in his first Mini-Transat race. *"It's a turning point for me and a leap into the unknown"*, he says. *"Sailing across the Atlantic Ocean has been a dream, and my aim is to arrive in Martinique without any regret; that would be a great achievement. And, finishing in the top 10 would be a fine result given the very high standards of these prototypes."* With the concept of transmission at the heart of Arkema's and Lalou Multi's strategy, Raphaël knows he can count on the support of both Lalou Roucayrol and Quentin Vlamynck. *"They bring a lot. It's such a bonus to be able to learn from them; many people would love to be in my place"*, Raphaël is delighted to say. *"I try to pass on to him what I learned when I raced in my two Mini-Transats, to help him save time"*, explains Quentin. *"Raphaël has taken the project fully on board, and he won't suffer interference or interruptions while busy preparing."* Lalou, meanwhile, reminds us that *"the Mini-Transat is THE race that enables transmission"*. Before adding: *"Our role with Quentin is to correct and fix things when needed and reassure Raphaël in times of doubt. It's interesting as we complement each other with Quentin."*





Start
22.09.2019
La Rochelle

1350
milles

Stopover
LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA

Start
02.11.2019

2700
milles

Finish
LE MARIN / MARTINIQUE
mid-November 2019

La Rochelle
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Le Marin

la
mini
transat



THE MINI-TRANSAT LA BOULANGÈRE, AN OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY EVENT

Held every other year since 1977 for the world's smallest ocean racing boats, the Mini-Transat La Boulangère is a unique event which has brought out many ocean racing skippers. There are indeed countless great sailors who have used this race as a springboard to continue their career on other circuits. Over and above its sporting dimension, the Mini-Transat is a journey in solitude as the competitors have no communication means at their disposal apart from an SSB radio (to receive daily weather reports from race headquarters) and a VHF radio with a very limited range.

This 22nd edition will see a record number of participants, with 90 registered, including 21 in prototype class, which is Raphaël Lutard's. Departure of the first leg will be on 22 September from La Rochelle, destination Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Canary Islands). The second leg, destination Le Marin (Martinique), will start on 2 November. This all adds up to a 4,050 mile journey.

Raphaël Lutard: *"When I was preparer for Quentin Vlamynck for the Mini-Transat 2017, I had the chance to experience this race from the inside as I was at the start and the finish. This made me even keener to take part myself. I know quite a lot about what to expect, which reduces the extent of the unknown."*

Lalou Roucayrol (competed in 1985 Mini-Transat): *"I took part in the Mini-Transat when I was 21 years old. This unforgettable experience helped me into the saddle. There was so much to learn, in so many ways. The Mini race is like a baccalaureate of ocean racing. What I have taken from it also is the great solidarity between the men and women competing in this event."*

Quentin Vlamynck (competed twice in the Mini-Transat, in 2015 and 2017): *"This race helped me mature a lot as it allowed me to discover racing on the open sea and experience my first big adventures. It's not fun every day, it can be total misery. But once you cross the finish line, what sticks in your mind is the great memories!"*



THE MATERIALS ADVENTURE GOES ON

Building on what has been achieved to date, the Arkema Group has decided to strengthen its partnership with Team Lalou Multi and build together a new latest generation 50 ft trimaran. The Multi 50 *Arkema 4* is scheduled to be launched in spring 2020, one target in particular being the Route du Rhum 2022. This innovative trimaran will be skippered by Quentin Vlamynck under the stewardship of Lalou Roucayrol, who is managing the project and acting as coach. *Arkema 4* includes materials from the Arkema Group. For example, the Elium® thermoplastic resin is used to manufacture a number of components, including the crossbeam mould that will be recycled when construction is over. Other applications include a greater use of the wide range of Bostik adhesives, the production of parts using 3D printing, and work on the batteries.

Thierry Le Hénaff, Arkema Chairman and CEO: *“Quite apart from sporting results, this represents a superb technological showcase that enables us to project our materials and the Group’s expertise on the oceans of the globe. It is with these considerations in mind that we have decided to build a new trimaran.”*

Lalou Roucayrol: *“Since the outset of our collaboration in 2013, the Arkema Group has been won over by every facet of this project. The renewal of this partnership involves the construction of a new 50 ft trimaran, Arkema 4, in which our shared values once again will take on their full meaning. Our baseline is the current boat, which has turned out very well. But together, by pooling our skills, we want to push the boundaries even further on some aspects of performance.”*





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