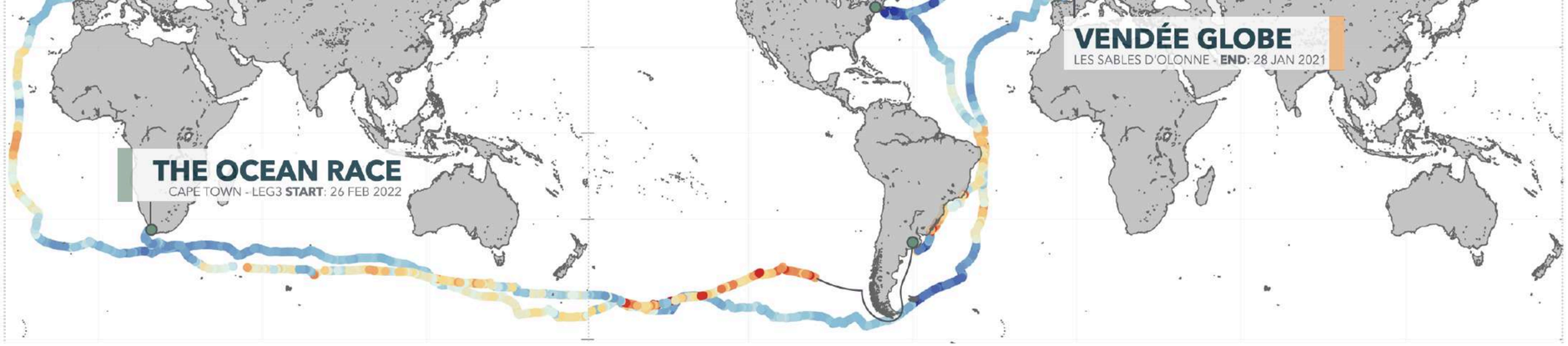
Malizia Explorer

Science - Communication - Education

A PLATFORM TO UNITE



RACING FOR SCIENCE SINCE 2018

One mission, two boats. Over the past decade, Team Malizia has combined high-performance ocean racing with a bold commitment to climate and science, raising awareness, educating younger generations, and collecting vital ocean data.

Racing in the world's toughest competitions, led by skipper Boris Herrmann, the team uses its platform to inspire action and give the ocean a voice. Aboard the Imoca racing sailing vessel Malizia Seaexplorer, we have gathered high-quality CO_2 data in remote regions, contributing to essential global climate research.

SAILING FOR SCIENCE

Building on our experience, our new science sailing vessel, Malizia Explorer, turns knowledge into action, advancing climate science and supporting Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

With a lower environmental footprint, reduced costs, and access to shallow and remote polar regions, it offers faster deployment than traditional research vessels.

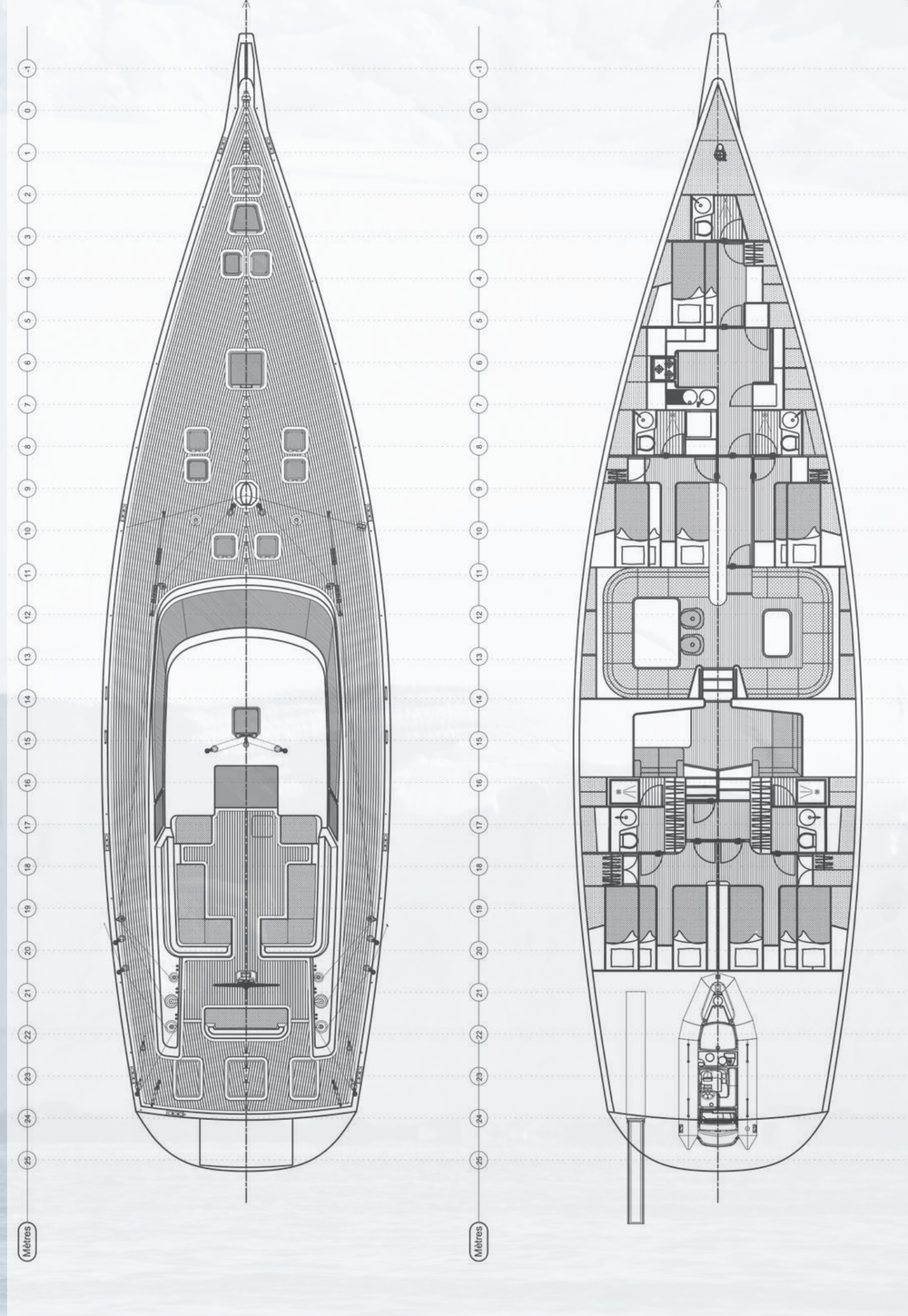
Scientists, content creators, and ambassadors come onboard to explore, study, and share the ocean's story, engaging a global community and driving action in this race we must win.

THE MALIZIA EXPLORER

Our vessel is a highly seaworthy sailing yacht, built with a durable aluminum hull to withstand polar conditions and proven by a full circumnavigation. Carrying the A Race We Must Win logo on the sails to strive for Climate Action bringing the topic to life from the ocean.

The vessel is operated by a crew of three and can accommodate up to 10 scientists along with their equipment, for a maximum capacity of 14 persons.

- Length: 26.33 m
- Draft: 2.5 - 4.2m (keel down)
- Mast height: 37 m
- Width: 7m




SCIENCE

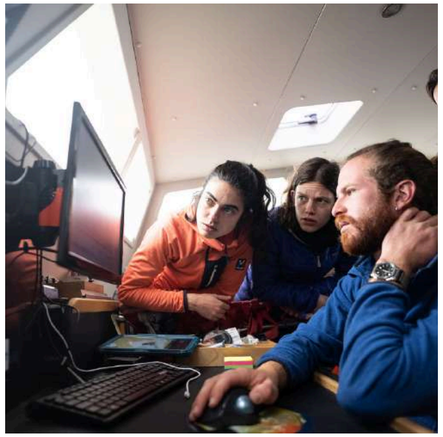

Maiwa Explorer


Maiwa Explorer

SCIENCE ONBOARD

The ship offers a functional working environment for oceanographic research. The boat provides essential infrastructure for the deployment, storage, and operation of scientific equipment, as well as for data processing and communication during expeditions.

- A bid central mess area that can host up to 25 persons with two TV's and two big table space to work do presentations and meetings.
- Reliable Starlink internet connection for data transfer and remote collaboration
- A deck-mounted A frame crane to deploy and recover instruments
- A large aft garage (4x3x1m) for storing scientific gear and samples
- A dinghy for coastal access and nearshore sampling



SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS #1

Sea water data acquisition systems

Malizia Explorer is equipped with a CTD rosette and an additional underway system (OceanPack), forming a flexible and integrated scientific platform supporting biological, chemical, and physical oceanographic measurements.

- CTD Rosette (Sea-Bird SBE 55): Deployed from the stern via an A-frame and lowered using a MacArtney CORMAC M2 winch, equipped with six 4 L sampling bottles. The system measures key oceanographic parameters, including temperature (T), salinity (S), dissolved oxygen (O_2), pressure, chlorophyll, and coloured dissolved organic matter (CDOM). It can be deployed to depths of up to 450 m, with real-time data transmission to an onboard computer.

- OceanPack Underway System (SubCtech): Continuous flow-through system enabling real-time surface measurements while underway, including CO_2, dissolved oxygen (O_2), salinity, and temperature.

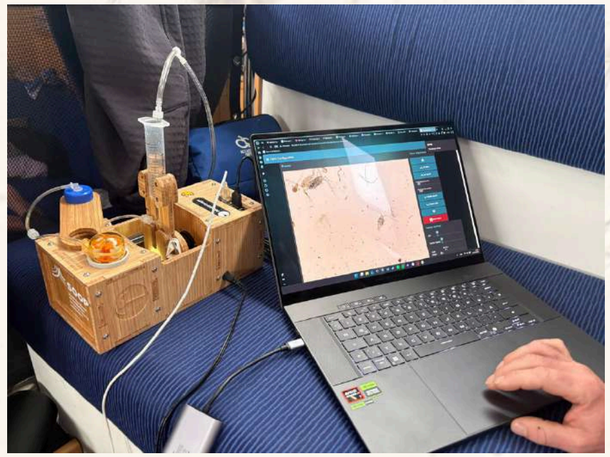
SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS #2

Planktoscopes and Planktonnet

The vessel is equipped with a PlanktoScope imaging system, a 50 µm plankton net, and an additional OASIS imaging system, providing a comprehensive approach to plankton observation and sampling. These systems enable both discrete and continuous monitoring of plankton diversity, size distribution, and temporal dynamics, supporting quantitative analyses and long-term oceanographic datasets.

- The plankton net enables targeted collection of microplankton, which are then imaged using the PlanktoScope at high resolution (0.9 µm/pixel), allowing detailed analysis of phytoplankton and small zooplankton (5–300 µm).

- Complementing this, the OASIS system enables continuous, in situ imaging of particles and organisms ranging from 3 to 2000 µm, supporting real-time monitoring of plankton communities and environmental variability.

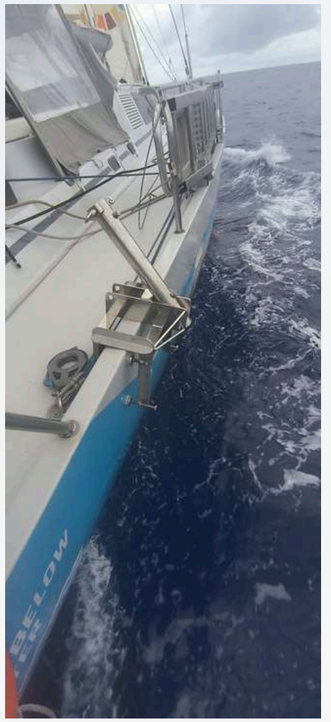


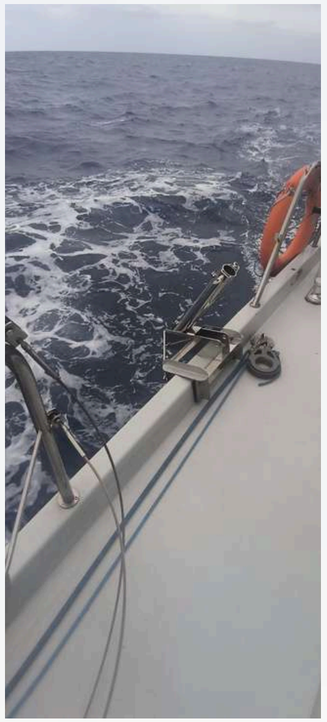
SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS #3

We are also equipped with onboard meteorological monitoring systems and additional infrastructure to support a wide range of scientific missions.

- Deck-mounted support system for acoustic and bathymetric pole deployment.
- Barometric (atmospheric pressure) sensor unit for continuous in situ measurements.

The vessel offers flexible capacity to integrate supplementary instruments and welcomes scientific teams to deploy their own equipment, including Argo floats, buoys, bathymetric and acoustic devices, as well as to support diving operations.



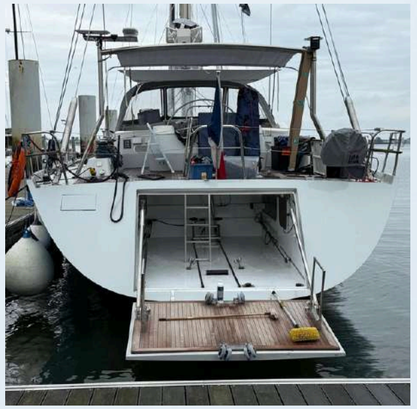


DIVING FOR SCIENCE

Malizia Explorer is equipped with four full sets of diving gear and a Bauer Junior II diving compressor (225 bar) with twin filling hose (PN200), supporting autonomous diving operations. Diving activities can be conducted directly from the aft deck platform or via a dedicated tender.

The vessel is supported by a 4.0 m rigid-hull inflatable tender powered by a 20 HP Suzuki four-stroke engine, as well as a secondary safety dinghy (Plastimo Trail, 3.4 m) with an 8 HP Yamaha outboard.

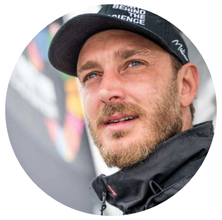
This configuration enables flexible and safe deployment of scientific diving, sampling, and nearshore operations.



OUR AMBASSADORS

The initiative started by Boris Herrmann includes sailors, scientists, content creators united by one goal: to explore and protect the ocean.

Boris Herrmann
Team Malizia founder
Sailor, Ocean advocate



Pierre Casiraghi
Team Malizia founder
Vice President of YCM

Dr Sylvia Earle
Oceanographer, explorer, Godmother of Malizia Explorer

Prof. Dr. Antje Boetius
Former Director, AWI

Prof. Dr. Katja Matthes
Director, Geomar

Dr Léa Olivier
Scientific Director
Alfred Wegener Institute, x5 Tara Expeditions

Oona Layolle
Captain & marine conservation activist, formerly at Sea Sheperd

Dr Toste Tanhua
Chemical Oceanographer, GEOMAR

Birte Lorenzen-Herrmann
Education

Nikolaus Schües
Director, Laeisz

ALFRED WEGENER INSTITUTE

ALFRED WEGENER INSTITUT

The Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), a leader in polar research, collaborates with Malizia Explorer to access regions beyond the reach of larger vessels. AWI contributes instruments, co-develops missions, and supports data analysis to expand polar oceanographic research.

“Malizia Explorer embodies what climate action demands: collaboration across disciplines, novel infrastructure, and science as our common foundation.”

Pr. Dr. Antje Boetjus - Fomer AWI director

GEOMAR

GEOMAR
Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel

GEOMAR, a leading marine research institute, partners with Malizia Explorer to study key regions like the tropical Atlantic, complementing its long-term observatory near Cape Verde. The collaboration includes scientific support, instrumentation, and training opportunities for early-career researchers.

“This project ensures that ocean science not only advances our understanding, but actively contributes to sustainable solutions for the pressing challenges of our future”

Prof. Dr. Katja Matthes - Director of GEOMAR

SOOP

SOOP
Shaping an Ocean
Of Possibilities
for science-industry
collaboration

SOOP is a Helmholtz innovation platform working to make ocean observation more accessible through standardized, affordable technologies. By enabling broader data collection and use, it supports a sustainable Blue Economy and helps diverse partners contribute to ocean monitoring.

“Together, we’ve collected valuable ocean CO_2, salinity and temperature data during three around-the-world races. Now, with a dedicated low-emission research vessel, this partnership takes a big leap forward for sustainable ocean observation.”

Toste Tanhua, SOOP Coordinator at GEOMAR

HEREON

Helmholtz-Zentrum
hereon

Hereon is a leader in coastal ocean science, developing technologies to support climate and societal resilience. Partnering with Malizia Explorer allows for real-world testing of instruments and expanding coastal observations in remote regions, backed by Hereon’s expertise and advanced data tools.

“This interdisciplinary collaboration is fully aligned with our strategic goal: to enhance ocean observing systems, protect coastal ecosystems under global change, and promote the sustainable use of our ocean for the benefit of society.”

Prof. Dr. Regine Willumeit Römer - Scientific Director of Hereon

LAEISZ

F. LAEISZ

The Hamburg-based shipping company F. Laeisz brings decades of experience in operating research vessels for polar and ocean science. As the operator of both the iconic icebreaker Polarstern and the sailing vessel Eugen Seibold, a platform for marine chemistry research, Laeisz is at the forefront of scientific exploration at sea. Their deep experience in managing complex scientific missions at sea is highly valuable for the development of Malizia Explorer, helping ensure that our vessel meets the highest standards of safety, efficiency, and research capability.

“With Malizia Explorer, we see a new generation of research vessel emerging: one that’s agile, low-impact, and built for collaboration. We’re happy to support this initiative and share our operational experience to help make it a success.”

Nikolaus Schües - Laeisz CEO

MONACO

"Both poles are extremely sensitive and fragile areas, to better understand them we need better science and more science which is why the Malizia Explorer is so important. The sailing boat will be able to reach remote polar areas and carry out key research."

Prince Albert II of Monaco

"I love the ocean and I want to protect it, the Malizia Explorer is an extension of the Malizia mission and I am excited to be a part of this next chapter!"

Pierre Casiraghi - Team Malizia Co-Founder

PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO FOUNDATION

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has supported Team Malizia since its inception, carrying forward the legacy of Prince Albert I's dedication to ocean protection and continuing to champion ocean conservation through the Malizia Explorer project.

MONACO OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE

The Monaco Oceanographic Institute welcome this new project, advancing oceanographic research and contributing valuable scientific expertise to understanding ocean health and climate change.

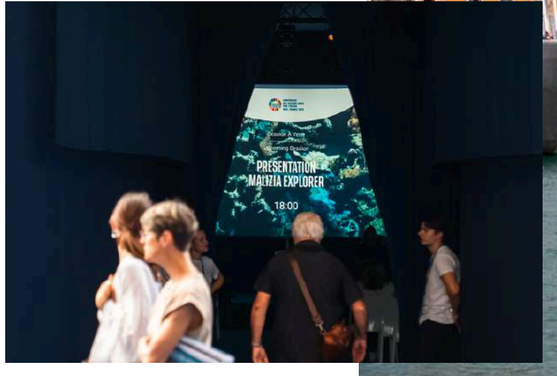
YACHT CLUB MONACO

The Yacht Club de Monaco has been a proud partner of Team Malizia since 2016, when Pierre Casiraghi and Boris Herrmann founded the team, and is now excited to support their new adventure aboard Malizia Explorer.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE, INSPIRING CHANGE

SHARING THE ADVENTURE

This project will follow marine scientists as they explore remote parts of the ocean, from the Mediterranean to Cape Verde and the edge of Antarctica, aboard Malizia Explorer. A dedicated media crew will document life at sea, the challenges of polar research, and discoveries as they unfold. By bringing science to life through compelling storytelling, we aim to make it more accessible and actionable, because the climate action we need begins with better communication of the science.



GIVE THE OCEAN A VOICE

ENGAGING WITH POLITICS & COMMUNITIES

Malizia Explorer will engage with local governments and communities along its route through partnerships with government bodies, schools, NGOs, and outreach programs. With the aim to showcase the work done so far and for great ocean protections to be implemented.

MY OCEAN CHALLENGE & EDUCATION FOR ALL

Team Malizia created a global ocean education programme, now available in 11 languages and used by over 85,000 students worldwide. As Malizia Explorer travels, the programme will reach classrooms along the route, while broader outreach efforts—through public talks, exhibitions, and scientific publications—aim to share ocean knowledge with all audiences, from schoolchildren to the scientific community.

PRESS AND MEDIA

The Malizia Explorer serves as a powerful platform to communicate ocean science and advocate for the urgent protection of our Ocean.

SOCIAL MEDIA

November-December-January

FOLLOWERS
11.71k

IMPRESSIONS
4.82 Million

POST PER WEEK
28.91

SUBSCRIBERS
1370

VIEWS
220.26k

POST PER WEEK
21.23

FOLLOWERS
1147

IMPRESSIONS
54.67k

NUMBER OF POSTS
9

FOLLOWERS
946

VIEWS
27.25

NUMBER OF POSTS
9

Newly launched website

PRINT, TV AND BROADCAST

November-December-January

Total Online News Mentions

280 MENTIONS

Total Online News AVE

412M REACH

Total Potential Editorial Reach

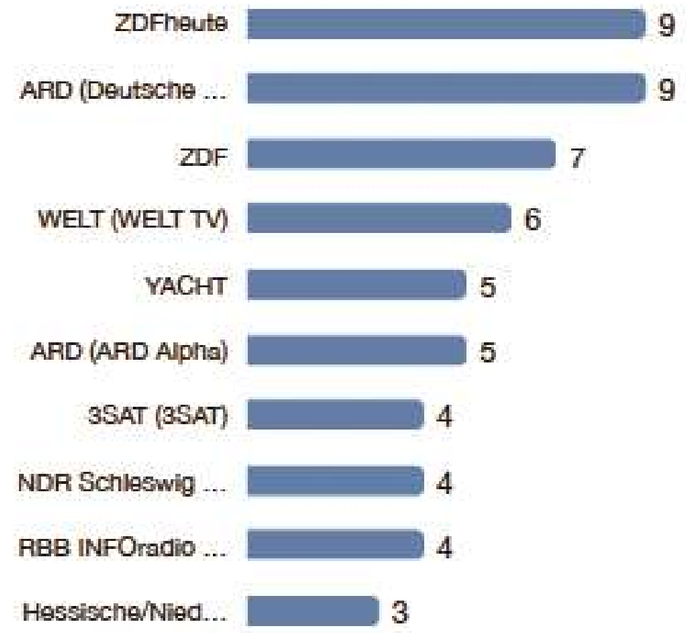
3.87M EUR

Total Estimated Views

1.8M (ESTIMATED)

Top Publications by Mentions

Nov 1, 2025 - Jan 31



ALL ON BOARD

Let’s unite to deepen our understanding of the ocean to better limit the impacts of climate change. Through this project, we aim to make a direct and lasting impact: advancing science, inspiring global climate action, and shaping public dialogue around ocean and climate issues.

CONTACT LOGISTICS/ PARTNERS

oona@maliziaexplorer.com

+33646280792

holly@borisherrmannracing.com

cornelius@borisherrmannracing.com

CONTACT SCIENCE

lea.olivier@awi.de