



Musto 2008 Etchells Australian Winter Championship

5 to 8 June, 2008

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Partnership promotes environment awareness

Today's sailing community is very aware of the impact of changes in the environment and the importance of working to preserve it for future sailing generations.

On the water sailors are encountering and adjusting to changes in weather patterns and water quality. On the land they have been forced to be careful and considerate in the use of chemicals while maintaining their boats and marine equipment.

The sailor's creed is to preserve what is good and to protect it for what it may become.

It is not surprising therefore that the Etchells fleet welcomes ITC Limited as a supporter of the Musto 2008 Etchells Australian Winter Championship.

ITC is Australia's leading integrated forestry and timber company with 150,000 hectares of planted trees developed in its own labs from its own seedlings grown on behalf of investors. ITC supports environmental renewal through their quest to meet the rising tide of demand for sustainable timber resources.

ITC National Sales Manager, Linda Pickering, sees the partnership between ITC and the national championship as both a meeting of new friends and a reunion of old ones.

"We are very pleased to have formed a partnership with a sport that promotes environmental awareness and care. Our partnership with the Etchells fleet will give us the chance to profile our company and investment opportunities. Many of the Etchells sailors are business decision-makers. We want them to know about ITC.

"We will also get the opportunity to introduce some of our clients to the wonderful world of high performance sailing."

Timber and sailing are old friends. There would hardly be a boat that does not carry some timber on or in it.

"The world-wide need for teak is greater than the resources available. The demand for this timber, even in boat building, will increase in proportion to its growing rarity," Pickering says.

The 12th annual Musto 2008 Etchells Australian Winter Championship will be held at Mooloolaba in Queensland from the 5th to 8th June. It will attract a highly competitive fleet from all states of Australia and from New Zealand.

In previous years the championship has hosted America's Cup sailors John Bertrand and Rob Brown, Sydney to Hobart Race skippers Grant Wharington and Mark Richards, and six-time Olympian Colin Beashel, along with New Zealand America's Cup sailors Russell Coutts and Cameron Appleton.

Last year's winning team led by Perth's Skip Lissiman will return to defend his national championship trophy.

ITC joins a group of outstanding local and national companies supporting the championship regarded as the largest and best one-design winter sailing event in Australia.

For more information on the event, visit the event website www.mooetchells.yachting.org.au

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ITC Limited — <http://www.itclimited.com.au/>

