



## LMAX EXCHANGE CELEBRATES SUCCESS IN ASIA

**21 March 2016, Qingdao, China:** Team LMAX Exchange, currently leading the Clipper 2015-16 Round the World Yacht Race (one of the toughest endurance sailing challenges on the planet), celebrated its arrival into Qingdao, China this week, by holding a unique Asia based Client appreciation day.

One of the UK's leading financial technology firms, LMAX Exchange invited a select group of 80 clients from the Asia region to meet, sail and celebrate with the Skipper and crew of its race team.

Guests, including Mr. He YuYing, Director of Capital Markets from the Qingdao Financial Affairs Office, Ms. Li Ming, Head of Wealth Management Co-operation Department of Qingdao, Clipper Race Founder Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and clients from all over Asia, were addressed by LMAX Exchange CEO, David Mercer, who said: "At LMAX Exchange we're passionate about financial technology and we are serious about ambition and success. Asia is a vital market for our business and with so many important clients based in the region, we felt this would be a fitting location to celebrate the success of Team LMAX Exchange together with our valued clients in a unique and inspirational way."

He added: "The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race is proving to be the perfect vehicle for showcasing the LMAX Exchange brand values of ambition, teamwork and innovation within a dynamic and challenging environment. And now as Team LMAX Exchange heads homeward from Qingdao we hope to continue to build on our success so far."

Ahead of the formal business reception, guests were invited to change into ocean racing attire and become race crew for the afternoon aboard the LMAX Exchange yacht. Starting out from the Qingdao Olympic Marina, Skipper Olivier Cardin and his race crew put the guests to work and provided a real taste of life aboard an ocean racing yacht.

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race is one of the biggest challenges of the natural world and an endurance test like no other. Starting and finishing in London, over 700 international crew compete in a matched fleet of twelve 70 foot racing yachts. It takes eleven months to complete the 40,000 nautical mile course in a series of 14 races between six continents. Along the way, crews endure Mother Nature's toughest and most unpredictable weather conditions in some of the planet's harshest environments.

Currently, Team LMAX Exchange leads the overall race standings following an impressive six podium finishes, including four 1st place victories out of the eight races so far. Since Race Start in London in August 2015, the teams have raced to Rio de Janeiro, Cape Town, Sydney, Hobart, the Whitsundays, Da Nang - Vietnam and Qingdao, China.

Clipper Race Chairman Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, the first man to sail solo, non-stop around the world in 1969, said: "As a first time Team Sponsor of the Clipper Race, I have been impressed at how well Team LMAX Exchange has embraced the adventurous spirit and competitive nature of the Clipper Race. A powerful blend of intense competition and human endeavour, the Clipper Race attracts sponsors and crew alike who share a desire to compete and push boundaries.

"LMAX Exchange has aligned fully with the race's strong teamwork values, and this leads from the top, which was proven without doubt when CEO David Mercer opted to join the team for the Sydney Hobart Race. With over four months and five races still remaining, this commitment will no doubt support and inspire the LMAX Exchange team in its aim to maintain the race lead back to London."

The Clipper Race stopover in Qingdao marks the end of Race 8 of the 14-stage global challenge. Race 9 to Seattle, USA sets sail on 20 March and will take teams almost 6000 nautical miles across the Pacific Ocean, the largest expanse of water on the planet, which is expected to take 31 days to complete. The Clipper 2015-16 Race will return to London's St Katharine Docks, with a triumphant Thames River parade set to take place on Saturday 30 July 2016.

- ENDS -

**For interviews and further press info, please contact:**

**Seven Hills (London):**

Nick Taylor T: +44 20 7199 6185 E: [lmax@wearesevenhills.com](mailto:lmax@wearesevenhills.com)

**LMAX Exchange (London):**

Barbara Pozdorovkina T: +44 20 3192 2510 E: [press@lmax.com](mailto:press@lmax.com)

**Notes to Editors**

**About LMAX Exchange:**

Recognised as one of the UK's fastest growing technology firms (2015 Winner - Deloitte UK Technology Fast 50, Tech Track 100 Sunday Times: 2015, 2014, 2013), LMAX Exchange is the leading MTF for FX, authorised and regulated by the FCA.

Headquartered in London, LMAX Exchange has a global client base in over 90 countries. Servicing hedge funds, brokers, corporates, asset managers and banks, LMAX Exchange delivers a unique vision for global FX trading - a transparent, neutral, level playing field for all market participants, regardless of status, size or activity levels.

LMAX Exchange - the emerging benchmark for global FX.

[www.lmax.com](http://www.lmax.com)

**About the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race:**

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race is the world's longest ocean adventure and is also regarded as one of the toughest endurance challenges on the planet. At 40,000 nautical miles long and taking almost a year to complete, it consists of twelve teams competing against each other on the world's largest matched fleet of 70-foot ocean racing yachts.

The Clipper Race was established in 1996 by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, the first person to sail solo non-stop around the world in 1968-69. His aim was to allow anyone, regardless of previous sailing experience, the chance to embrace the thrill of ocean racing; it is the only event of its kind for amateur sailors. Around 40 per cent of crew are novices and have never sailed before starting a comprehensive training programme ahead of their adventure.

This unique challenge brings together everyone from chief executives to taxi drivers, nurses and firefighters, farmers, airline pilots and students, from age 18 upwards, to take on Mother Nature's toughest conditions. There is no upper age limit, the oldest competitor to date is 74.

Whether they choose to take on the whole circumnavigation or compete in one or more of eight individual legs, all our crew achieve something remarkable as they conquer some of the world's most challenging oceans.

The overall route is split into a series of global races and a maximum 12 points going to first place ascending to 1 point for twelfth place. The team with the highest cumulative points at the end of the final race wins the series, and the Clipper Race trophy.

The Clipper 2015-16 Race started from St Katharine Docks, London on 30 August 2015 and is the event's tenth edition. Over 690 people from more than 40 different countries will take part, and over 3,000 novice sailors have been transformed into ocean racers throughout Clipper Race history so far.

For more information, go to [www.clipperroundtheworld.com](http://www.clipperroundtheworld.com). To download official Clipper Race images and video, please register at [www.clipperroundtheworld.com/mediaportal](http://www.clipperroundtheworld.com/mediaportal)