



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VOLVO OCEAN RACE LEG 4
MOVISTAR TO STOP FOR REPAIRS

Farr Yacht Design is deeply disappointed that problems have struck movistar just short of her rounding the sailor's most feared landmark, Cape Horn. It would appear that problems have developed with the fairing around the keel and this caused water to enter the boat at an alarming rate through the wet box surrounding the keel mechanism. Speed at the time was in excess of 20knots. A frightening time for all concerned but the crew has managed to get the situation under control and movistar is currently making 8 knots heading for the scoring gate at the Cape.

We at Farr Yacht Design are standing by to help this highly competitive team in any way we can, and hope that we can assist movistar and her crew to return to the race with the least loss of time.

As yet, details of the exact damage to the boat are not clear but it would appear to be to the fairing plate around the forward end of the keel, to which repairs were made during the short pit stop in Wellington. The fairing directs the water flow around the opening for the canting keel.

Those repairs necessitated a two-hour penalty for movistar but her crew knuckled down to the formidable task and was quickly back with the leaders. Movistar won the leg into Wellington (despite damage to the keel fairing).

Our thoughts are with Bouwe and the crew who have already overcome the worst scenario and are heroically making their way to the Argentine port of Ushuaia where repairs will be carried out.

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