



500 years after the technological advances that allowed a small country to dominate the Seas and discover the World, we are pleased to announce the birth of the “**Portuguese C-Class Challenge**” and the “**Team Cascais 2013**” to compete at the International C-Class Catamaran Championships (ICCCC). The event will take place between 21 and 28 September 2013 in Falmouth, England, where we will showcase Portuguese Technology, our skills and our competitive spirit against the best in the World.

A 100% Portuguese partnership between **TonyCastroDesign** and **Optimal Structural Solutions**, is developing and manufacturing in Cascais a high technology rigid WingSail Catamaran for this competition. This catamaran will compete against teams from, United States, United Kingdom, Canada, France, Switzerland and Italy for the title of ICCCC.

Being the first ever Portuguese participation in this class, this is a significant challenge. Optimal Structural Solutions and Tony Castro Design have a substantial R&D program ongoing. This program is focused on bridging the gap to the competition, by developing novel solutions, covering areas such as hydrodynamics, aerodynamics, composite materials, lightweight structures and controls.

The International C-Class Catamaran is a class which uniquely allows a great deal of design freedom and as such it allows far more technologically demanding solutions than any other sailing class or event.

“Team Cascais 2013” has for the past 12 months worked on a design development program and a sponsorship package which is now in place. This has allowed the manufacture of the Catamaran to start and we expect to be sailing in Cascais by July.

Cascais, 15th of May 2013.