

Boats offload to Qatar customs

{gallery}galleries/2009Oryx/offload{/gallery}

DOHA, QATAR (November 5, 2009) After a 37-day voyage across several oceans, the ten unlimited hydroplanes have arrived safely in Doha, Qatar well in time for the Oryx Cup UIM World Championship Nov. 19-21.

According to David Holley from Peters & May USA, the organization responsible for the fleet's journey to the Middle East, despite some weather issues the trip was very routine.

Click on the image to begin a slideshow

The hydroplanes will be in customs for several days and then be escorted to a secure location. Two crewmen, Bob Ross and Greg Jones from the U-16 Ellstrom Elam Plus were on hand to execute the off-loading from the M/V Hoegh Bangkok.

The two will stay in Doha and prep the hydroplanes for scheduled displays in shopping malls promoting the Oryx Cup UIM World Championship.

The hydroplanes were loaded in Jacksonville, Fla. leaving the U.S. on Sept. 29. There were 11 ports of call including Lebanon, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia before arriving in their host country.

The Oryx Cup UIM World Championship is the first time the hydroplanes have raced outside of North America.

A special thanks to freelance photographer Joe Roop for these pictures and for entertaining Ross and Jones while they wait for the custom officials to release the powerboats and the equipment.