

## MY PROJECT



# KITE-CARIBBEAN CHALLENGE

MARTINIQUE to ST. MARTIN in Kitesurf

Year 2013

# My Background

My name is Serge OCCHIPINTI, I'm not like the others but I have decided to take on a challenge ... my challenge!

Everything begins January 24, 2011, when I travel on a motorcycle on the road in south MARTINIQUE, a car misses his turn and hit me hard.

3 days later I wake up with an amputated arm and multiple fractures.

Doctors announced to my family that they couldn't pronounce, I only have a 20% chance of surviving the accident, and if I go, it will take me at least a year to have a small hope to see me walk again.

After many operations, including installing a nail for replacing my femur, I began a long and difficult battle. This is the price of terrible suffering that I finally managed to get up and walk a few steps with a walker. After two months, I can walk around my bed, and I take hope...

A few days after, I finally leave my own room to walk in the hallway. The nurses could not believe it. I was considered dead and then my life starts again with the courage and strength to try me out.

Transferred to a rehabilitation center in MARTINIQUE few months later. It is a long period of rehabilitation begins. 5 hours per day long sessions of physiotherapy, hard, painful, stressful, but I fight and I cling...

It's after five months of effort and perseverance that I ended by walking again almost correctly.

Then comes the moment of leave, an exit will be very difficult psychologically. In this hospital I was picked up at 100%, and then I feel vulnerable to this new life waiting for me outside.

In September I take again the bike, and this is in December I decided to take the kitesurf without prostheses at the beginning. Later the orthopedics department Guitteaud agree to sponsor me in making a prosthesis to navigate.

In March I meet people kitesurfing, and then I decided to start this project between Martinique to St. Martin in the caribbean.

# My Sport Project

This project consists in:

- Navigate in kitesurf part of the West Indies in several stages, from Martinique to arrive on the island of Saint Martin.
- It will take minimum 7 steps if the wind conditions permit, 3 to 4 hours each to connect each endpoint defined.
- Each steps will be launched starting from the same point of arrival than before. For this, it is necessary to have a follow up with a catamaran for the GPS, security, supplies and sleeping. And a fast boat to intervene in case of emergency.
- At each stage there will be a guest in his experienced discipline that will navigate one step with me.
  - ALEX CAIZERGUES, first kitesurfer to have past the barrier of 100 km/h on water.
  - JULIEN Kerneur, double world champion in kitesurfing race.
  - And other names windsurfing too.
- The French group "France Televisions" located in the French Antilles, Martinique, Guadeloupe, St. Barthelemy and St. Martin, interested in my project plans to realize several reports, both television and radio. Including arrivals and departures in the French islands, and any of the steps followed in a sea...
- A photo report will also be done during the whole voyage by a professional and will be taken up by sports magazines "Kite-surfing mag", "Kiteboarding magazine", "Stance" ... etc.

This sport project is very important for me, it is a real challenge to prove that people with disabilities can excel through sport and to open up a different future living with disability.

The eventual objective is to create ASSOCIATION located in Martinique that would allow disabled people, like me, a sea sport, kite surfing, Sup stand up, Surfing, kite Cat with schools already interested in the project.

# Why Sponsor my Challenge?

- **Associate the colours of your company to the core values of my project:** dynamism, adventure, perseverance, willingness to take risks and effort, tenacity, independence, sharing, humanitarian, sports, etc...
- **Amaze and seduce your customers in new** contributing to human experience and original. It is also strengthen your brand with existing customers while attracting the attention of prospects who have been seduced by your commitment to me.

- **Benefit from media impact.**

Since my commitment to this project, France TV has already made a television report which was broadcast news program in prime time, as well as on their website. It is provided with France Television, writing TV and radio to communicate about this project before departure, during the various stages, and at the finish. Throughout this project a video and photo report will be made and distributed:

- 1) A montage will be delivered to France TV broadcast quality.
- 2) Several reports radio with Radio and Radio Martinique Caribbean International (RCI) will be released before my departure in Martinique and Guadeloupe, and when I arrived in St. Martin.
- 3) A photo report will be distributed in several magazines. Report made by a major brand advertising French specializing in sport of skiing ...
- 4) A written report in the local newspaper "France Antilles", which appeared in Martinique, Guadeloupe and St. Martin, also broadcast on the Internet.
- 5) Videos will be posted on websites such as YouTube, Dailymotion, Vimeo.
- 6) News regularly updates on my Facebook Fan Page and a website already in place. <http://www.sergeocchipinti.com>
- 7) The banners will be placed on the catamaran on t-shirts and any visible support, as well as on my Facebook page and my website.

8) The advertisements also appear on my cycling suits, because I also do bike three times a week.

9) This project to navigate a part of the West Indies, has never been attempted, whether kitesurfing or windsurfing.

10) Finally, if you are still unsure, another reason I support: tax exemption! Yes, sponsoring my challenge Kite Caraibes, you can receive a tax deduction for expenses of sponsorship (Article 39.1.7 of the French General Tax Code)

## Table of Financing

Kite surfing equipment complete	6500,00 euros
Boat fast follower	4000,00 euros
Crewed catamaran boat skippers and hostesses	15000,00 euros
Fuel for all vessels	4000,00 euros
Food for the whole 10 days	1500,00 euros
Beverages for 10 days through	500,00 euros
Safety GPS Equipment	1400,00 euros
Ticket Plane for 7 persons invited	4900,00 euros
Return Plane ticket for 2 persons	800,00 euros
Diverse and unexpected costs	2000,00 euros
Car rental and airport transfer	1200,00 euros

Total

41800,00 euros

# An Intense Physical Preparation

It is true that this challenge will be very hard to achieve. The ocean current, wave trough with 3 to 4 meters and the trade winds will be my main obstacles.

To all of this is added the constant pain of my scars, I need a physical preparation height, worthy of a top athlete.

I am surrounded by volunteers sensitized by my project with a coach specialized in nutrition, endurance, psychology.

I practice Kitesurf as often as time permits with sessions in the channel between Martinique and Dominica and St Lucia, 2 to 4 hours to get used to the navigation on the high seas

A continuous training is necessary due to 3 times a week with cycling sessions and specific physical training.

A new style of training the "StreetStepper" also allows me to do a thorough job, stamina, with high frequencies of cardio.

This project is of immeasurable importance to me. I want to prove to myself but also for people with a disability or not that anything is possible as we are driven by passion, determination and especially the desire. I wish through this challenge to give them hope and prove that disability is not an obstacle to live his life and fulfill his dreams. By supporting me, it is a part of the dream of any handicapped that you will support ... live with and beyond his handicap!

Thank you for supporting me.

Serge oacpijinti  
