

Title : S'porean to be co-skipper of Audi Ultra racing yacht
By : Patwant Singh
Date : 05 Sep 2011 2023 hrs (GMT + 8hrs)

SINGAPORE: The Audi Ultra is one of the most advanced and light-weight ocean racing yachts which will be based in Singapore.

Observers said it would help to boost the sport of sailing in Singapore as it competes in regional races.

For the past week, the 30-metre-long carbon fibre boat has been berthed at the Marina Bay.

During that time, the public got a chance to be close to the state-of-the art craft, but that is just one of the reasons for its stay in Singapore.

Singaporean sailor Tan Wearn Haw, who is also the CEO of Singapore Sailing, was announced as the co-skipper of the boat.

Thirty-two-year-old Tan will partner with skipper Ludde Ingvall, from Finland, who is also the builder of the boat.

Over the next few weeks, the team will be conducting trials to select a 24 to 28-men crew, half of whom will be Singaporeans, and it seems there is plenty of talent to fill that quota.

"It allows us to bridge the gap between amateur sports and professional sports. Sailing is a very interesting and dynamic industry, so in terms of a sailor, as a sportsmen, you do need platforms like this to cross over into the real world, the 'big boat world' and that's where the professional sailors are," said Mr Tan.

- CNA/cc

[<< back to channelnewsasia.com](http://www.channelnewsasia.com)