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**CRUISING CLUB OF AMERICA AWARDS
ROD STEPHENS TROPHY TO CREW OF *ABN AMRO TWO***

New York, N.Y. (January 16, 2007) – The crew of *ABN AMRO TWO* was selected by the Cruising Club of America (CCA) to receive the 2006 Rod Stephens Trophy for Seamanship for skillfully carrying out the nighttime recovery of an overboard crewmember during the Volvo Ocean Race. The trophy will be presented at the club's annual Awards Dinner in New York on January 16, 2007. This is a perpetual trophy made possible by shipmates and friends of the late Rod Stephens to recognize "an act of seamanship which significantly contributes to the safety of a yacht or one or more individuals at sea." Making the presentation of the award to *ABN AMRO TWO*, skipper Seb Josse on behalf of the crew will be CCA Commodore Edward S. Rowland of Hamilton, Mass.

While ultimately unsuccessful in saving the life of their fellow crew member, Hans Horrevoets, the crew located his body by acting quickly, following good, previously rehearsed procedures and using excellent judgment in carrying out search tactics. Following recovery of the victim, strenuous and well-advised efforts were made, but the crew ultimately was not able to save him.

The accident occurred at night on May 18, 2006 in the North Atlantic while sailing downwind in 30 knots of wind in rough conditions. When the boat nosedived down a wave, water washed back over the deck and Horrevoets was carried overboard. He had not yet clipped himself into the boat's harness tethering system, and he was not wearing a lifejacket. Just 30 minutes earlier, the captain had ordered the crew to wear harnesses for the remainder of the trip, and at the time of the accident the other members of the crew were wearing their gear.

Immediately after "Man Overboard" was hailed, the MOB (man overboard) button on the GPS and navigation software was activated, the dan buoy was deployed along with a lighted life ring, smoke flare and other torches in the cockpit. The spinnaker was quickly dropped, the staysail furlled, and the engine started. At the time the boat was able to reverse course, the MOB position

was 1.6 miles away. The mainsail also was dropped when it was found that they could not sail directly to the MOB position. The life ring, flare and dan buoy were spotted and had the positions plotted. Horrevoets was first sighted four minutes after the accident. His strobe was flashing, but he was lying face down in the water thus making him very hard to be seen.

One of the crew had donned a diver's dry suit and assisted in getting the casualty aboard over the transom. He was taken below and when no pulse was found, CPR was initiated. A hospital in England was in contact with the crew and its staff advised them to administer adrenaline and continue CPR for a further 20 minutes. Unfortunately he could not be revived.

The crew of *ABN AMRO TWO* included: Seb Josse (skipper), Simon Fisher (navigator), Scott Beavis, Nick Bice, Lucas Brun, Andrew Lewis, Luke Molloy, George Peet and Simeon Tienpont.

About the Cruising Club of America

The Cruising Club of America is dedicated to offshore cruising, voyaging and "the adventurous use of the sea" through efforts to improve seamanship, the design of seaworthy yachts, safe yachting procedures and environmental awareness. Now in its 84th year, the club has 10 stations throughout the U.S., Canada, and Bermuda, with approximately 1200 members who are qualified by their experience in offshore passage making. In even-numbered years, the CCA organizes the Newport to Bermuda Race in conjunction with the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. It also sponsors several Safety at Sea seminars and hosts a series of "Suddenly Alone" seminars for the cruising couple.

For more information on the CCA, go to <http://www.cruisingclub.org>.

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