

Goals

This document describes the design goals that the OSYD-650 initiative tries to achieve:

- The OSYD-650 design initiative is about creating a racing yacht that complies with the latest Mini-650 Class rule.
- The OSYD-650 design documents (drawings, calculations, manuals perhaps) are to be published under a public open source yacht design license.
- The OSYD-650 design initiative strives to create a racing yacht that potentially might gain widespread acceptance.
- The OSYD-650 design - and building method(s) - is targeted at competent home builders.

Priorities

In order to achieve the goals listed above, the following priorities (in order of decreasing importance) are intended to be used as a guide when deciding between design alternatives:

- Safety & reliability
- Mini-650 Rule Class compliancy
- Easy to sail and handle
- All-round performance
- Mainstream acceptance
- Reducing complexity
- Minimising costs

This ranking of priorities is not meant to be some sort of design dogma. It's main purpose is to guide the design team in case discussions arise about design alternatives that might result in a decision either way. Knowing what's really important to us will help us with making such decisions.

Some of you might be surprised to find that we prioritize easy handling over performance. The Mini-650 Class is predominately focussed at long distance solo sailing. These races aren't won by exhausted sailors, whatever base performance their boat might offer. A well balanced boat is also easier on the autopilot, which reduces wear and tear and of course power consumption too.

As to performance: we're after an all round boat, firstly because we strongly believe there's more to mini sailing than just doing a minitransat, secondly because as homebuilders we wouldn't want to put up money for a boat that's not competitive in anything but the minitransat.

Design team members Russ Lenarz and Pedro Costa Franco provided invaluable feedback on the first draft of this document.