



SPEECH BY HANSA SAILING’S CHRIS MITCHELL ANNOUNCING THE WINNER OF THE INCLUSION AWARD AT THE 2023 HANSA CLASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

What began in France as Handivoile, a short form for Handicap Sailing, has grown to include all levels of wheelchair users, people with intellectual and mental disability, vision impaired, deaf people, European, Asian and African people, equal numbers of women as men. But it has now evolved to include all their carers and their able bodied friends, all Sailing Together.

Sailing Together. — what a great example of inclusion that is. In French it’s “La Voile Ensemble”, sailing together, what a beautiful name that is for an inclusive Class Association.

Apart from that, just on the strength of numbers, with nearly 100 sailors here at our Worlds, La Voile Ensemble has to deserve this years’ Inclusion award.

So Gilles, President of La Voile Ensemble, please come forward to accept this award.