

Media Monitoring

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Headline: **Vitoria Brasil Sailing Cup: Ian Williams set for penultimate World Match Racing Tour event**

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Vitoria Brasil Sailing Cup: Ian Williams set for penultimate World Match Racing Tour event Wednesday, 14 November 2007

Ian Williams, who is sponsored by print and electronic media company Pindar, today begins racing at the Vitória Brasil Sailing Cup, the penultimate event in the 2006-07 World Match Racing Tour. The event, held at Praia do Canto just north of Rio de Janeiro, could significantly affect the final result of the World Match Racing Tour, with just seven points currently separating leader Ian Williams of Team Pindar, from second-placed Frenchman Mathieu Richard. If Williams succeeds in winning the 2006-07 World Match Racing Tour, he will be the first Briton ever to win the ISAF Match Racing World Championships in the 19 year history of the event.

Williams, 30, who is based in Southampton, UK, is currently ranked number one on the World Match Racing Tour. Sailing with Williams at this event, the 14th stage in the World Match Racing Tour, is Andy Estcourt, Mark Williams, Mark Nicholls and Simon Shaw. No Briton has ever won the World Match Racing Tour, formerly known as the Swedish Match Tour and the World Championships Championships. Whilst the Vitória Brasil Sailing Cup cannot decide the winner of the Tour - which will go to the final event, the Monsoon Cup, held in Malaysia from 28th November to 2nd December - the Brazilian event could shake up the top five teams, who are all currently mathematically able to win the Tour, and therefore the ISAF Match Racing World Championships. The final event on the Tour is worth double points, and must be counted in each team's seven best scores.

Ian Williams commented: "The pressure really is on us now, and as a team, we feel well prepared. There are now just two events remaining, and after a particularly long Tour season, we are looking forward to the winner being crowned next month. We've led the Tour for 10 out of the 15 months it has been running, but as the results show, it really does come down to the wire. We, Team Pindar, need to put in a good solid result out here in Brazil to consolidate our lead and bring back the title we are after in Malaysia."

Andrew Pindar, Chairman of the Pindar Group commented: "We at Pindar wish Ian and his team the very best of luck for the final two events on the World Match Racing Tour. Both events have several great teams racing for the title of World Champion, so I have no doubt that the competition will be incredibly tough. Match racing is one of sailing's most exciting disciplines from a spectator's point of view, so we will be watching Team Pindar's progress with bated breath."

The Vitória Brasil Sailing Cup begins today and finishes on Sunday 18th November.



WEBER SHANDWICK
WORLDWIDE

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Team Pindar World Match Racing Tour Results 2006/7

- 12th – Bermuda Gold Cup 07
- 6th – Latium Match Cup 07
- 1st – St Moritz Match Race 07
- 3rd - Danish Open 07
- 2nd - Troia Portugal Match Cup 07
- 10th - Match Cup Sweden 07
- 11th - Match Race Germany 07
- 3rd - Monsoon Cup 06
- 4th - Allianz Cup 06
- 1st - Bermuda Gold Cup 06
- 10th - St. Moritz Match Race 06
- 5th - Danish Open 06
- 9th - Portugal Match Cup 06