

TECH STORY 6: HELM'S CONTROL IN ACTION

00:06

Jimmy Spithill, Skipper ORACLE TEAM USA, English

“Steering an America's Cup boat is a lot like steering a racing car.

This is the steering wheel from the boat, this is what we've been developing with the engineers of BMW.

The big difference to what a conventional sailboat wheel has is obviously these twist grips. So a lot like a pilot adjusting his ailerons all the time for us the way we keep the boat flying and above the water is constant adjustment.”>>00:29

00:31

Tom Slingsby, Tactician and Helmsman ORACLE TEAM USA, English

„We are very happy with this wheel. We've been using the BMW steering wheel in training and the twist grip technology developed for us has been extremely important. With the accuracy of the twist grip, we use the foils less and that means our grinders don't have to work as hard to produce that power and that's translating into boat speed.“>>00:50

00:56

Alex Reid, Electronics Engineer ORACLE TEAM USA, English

“About a month ago, we had a racing period here which was really good to see how the helm uses the wheel in anger. In the pre-start maneuvers we studied how they were using the wheel and we made some changes in terms of moving locations of the twist grips and buttons and we gonna see how that turns out in the next set of racing.”>>01:14

01:16

Jimmy Spithill, Skipper ORACLE TEAM USA, English

“To me, this has been a huge step in my role: if it wasn't for integrating the twist grip moving us forwards, we wouldn't be able to push the boat as hard as we did today.“>>01:26

Ends: 01:31 min.