

Dear Friends

*“So happy to say that we at Starboard are well on our way to meet World Sailing’s February 2020 ex factory shipment date request of the new Olympic windsurfing gear.*

*Going forward the class will be named the iQFOiL class.*

*The evolution came about since we were informed that our trademark request for iFOIL was not accepted in Germany and the USA.*



*Looking forward to see Innovation and Quality engraved into our Olympic foiling future, the same way as we at Starboard have promoted IQ as our slogan over the last 20 years.”*

Svein Rasmussen, owner, founder and CEO of Starboard also represented his country at the Olympic Games in 1984 and won the Mistral World Championships in 1983. Bringing innovation and quality to the world of windsurfing has been his mission statement since the founding years of Starboard, but while Starboard’s designs are currently leading the Constructors’ titles in the slalom and wave disciplines, revolutionising Olympic Windsurfing was an objective.

*“It’s been good fun to work with such an amazing project started by Tiesda You. The depth of this campaign goes beyond those who we usually hear about. When Sarah Kenny the Chair of the World Sailing Events Committee, spoke up on behalf of windsurfing at the World Sailing mid-year meeting in London, she created a chance for the sea trials to be held in Torbole. Dina Kowalyszyn, head of the equipment committee at World sailing was instrumental in persuading nations worldwide about her findings that the iQFoil concept being the best choice for the Olympics.*

*I would not have been here at Starboard today if it not for the co-inventor of windsurfing, Jim Drake, so cheers to Jim for having created Windsurfing in the way we know it, he would have been stoked to see us all fly. At times I felt in between “Mission Impossible” and “Groundhog Day” but with so many good spirits fighting for bringing Olympic windsurfing to the front line of our sport, it was in the cards that we underdogs could make it, as long as we are united. On behalf of our Tiki brand, I thank Jean Louis Colmas from New Caledonia, the creator of our Tiki spirit.*

*I hope that RS:X riders will enjoy the transition to foiling and that the level of excitement will make the journey of windsurfing an even better one. Techno riders can keep on enjoying windsurfing and be sure that it’s only getting better as they grow into the Olympic class.*

*I ended my Olympic carrier in 1984 when we were told that we had to use div 2 boards for the next Olympics in 1988, that was after having been sailing the Windglider without a harness for 4 years. Now that we have cutting edge gear to ride in the following Olympic games it has never been a better time to get into competitive windsurfing.”*