



OLD RIVALS GO BACK TO THE FUTURE HISTORIC J CLASS YACHTS BATTLE AGAIN

One of yachting's greatest rivalries was brought back to life last month when the two J-Class replicas of *Ranger* and *Endeavour II* (now *Hanuman*) raced each other for the first time in 72 years during July's Newport Bucket regatta. The last time these two legends met was in the 1937 America's Cup when the British challenger *Endeavour II* lost to the US team's *Ranger* in the very same seas off Newport, Rhode Island. On this occasion it was the brand-new replica of *Endeavour II*, *Hanuman*, which narrowly beat the more experienced *Ranger* crew, much to the satisfaction of her owner Jim Clark.

Built by the Royal Huisman yard and launched earlier this year, *Hanuman* is one of a growing number of new J-Class replicas that have helped swell the numbers of the three original surviving craft. Four more yachts – *Lionheart*, *Rainbow*, *Atlantis* and *SVEA* – are already in build in yards around Europe with plans for a fifth taking shape. By 2011 there should be as many as 9 J-Class boats racing, marking a remarkable return for these iconic America's Cup craft. All the new boats must follow original plans from the 1930s and be approved by the J-Class Association to compete in the regattas.