

**Heille 23 August 2011**

**Interpretation on IOM Class Rules 2011-IOM- 3**

Request received from Zvonko Jelacic, commercial sailmaker

'Are single panel sails, moulded by exposure to heat over a form to the desired shape, in compliance with the **Class Rules**'

### **Documents affecting**

**IOM Class Rules 2011 (CR)**

### **Discussion**

To work effectively a **sail** must have a designed three dimensional shape. The wording of **CR G3.2** and **G4.2** control the manner in which **sails** are constructed and finished and the techniques allowed to achieve this. The number of panels that make up the **sail** are limited by the number of **seams** permitted , being respectively four in the **mainsail** and three in the **headsail**, with no minimum. Current and accepted practice is to use sail blocks to connect the panel **seams** to achieve the desired shape so in practice the panelled **sails** are 'moulded' on the sail blocks to create a designed three dimensional **sail** of the desired shape.

### **Conclusion**

The conclusion is that:

a)Single panel **sails** are permissible under the **Class Rules** and that b)The use of a mould to allow, by the application of heat and/or force, the **sail** material to conform to the mould shape is not prevented by the current CR.

Val Provoost Chairman Technical Committee IRSA

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