Volvo Ocean Race - Case 02

Request for Redress from Vestas

Hearing on March 12

Party representatives:

- Mark Towill
- Charlie Enright
- Anderson Reggio

Witnesses:

- Phil Harmer
- Stacey Jackson
- Simon Fisher

Facts:

- The conditions were 20-23 knots of wind and 1 meter waves. It was at night, cloudy and dark with at least 2 miles of visibility.
- Vestas was sailing on starboard tack with a speed of about 20 knots, with full mainsail, fractional code zero and J3 staysail.
- About 1 minute before the incident, Vestas luffed 10-12 degrees to pass in front of a vessel.
- Another vessel with some light appeared approximately 20 meters in front of Vestas on the leeward side of her bow and they collided about 2 seconds later with serious damage to Vestas.
- The other vessel 's type, activity, course and speed have not been identified.
- The sequence and the precise points of impact between the two vessels have not been identified.

Conclusion:

On the evidence presented, the jury cannot be satisfied which IRPCAS rule applied and therefore which vessel was required to keep out of the way. Therefore, the conditions of RRS 62.1(b) are not met.

Decision:

Redress not given.

Decision given on March 12, 2018 at 17:55 (local time).