

## PRESS RELEASE

## Venice Racing Team set to join the UIM E1 World Championship

---

- First team announced for the inaugural season of the world's first all-electric raceboat championship
  - Following the successful water launch and testing of the RaceBird prototype, E1 welcomes the first team set to be on the starting grid in 2023
  - The Venice Racing Team, a new racing entity created specially for E1 by a team of experts, was born from Venice's vision to build a sustainable future around the city's heritage and connection to the water
- 

Venice, Italy (27th April 2022)

**Following the RaceBird's first successful foiling and speed tests on the River Po in Italy, the UIM E1 World Championship has today announced the first team entry set to race in the inaugural season in 2023.**

The Venice Racing Team, which has been created specially to compete in E1, has water and electric boating at its heart. The team has been established to provide a focus and platform for the many institutions and companies in Venice, who share a common philosophy and commitment to building a sustainable future.

The new racing entity is the brainchild of entrepreneur Francesco Pannoli, who will run the operation. Pannoli developed the project alongside energy specialist Claudio Iannelli, racing expert and offshore world champion Luigi Radice and motorsport expert Eugenio Razelli.

Francois Richard from Lanéva Boats will also join the team to oversee business development and Nicolò Muraro from Meneghini & Associati will lead the communications team, with the team expected to announce their pilot line-up at the Salone Nautico in Venice next month.

The Venice Racing Team wants to help drive action to protect the city's unique lagoon environment, residential ecosystem, and artistic heritage.

**Rodi Basso, Co-Founder & CEO of E1**, said: "I'm very proud to announce an Italian team as the first entry set to compete in our burgeoning global electric raceboat championship. We're excited to welcome Venice Racing Team to the E1 family off the back of the RaceBird hitting the water earlier this month.

"Having a team who represents the City of Venice is perfect for E1 and our shared vision of accelerating electric mobility in urban waters. Venice itself has a special connection to the

water and is one of the most iconic cities to have an association with a racing team given its sustainability credentials and recognition as one of the eco-capitals of the world.

“We’re currently speaking to dozens of other prospective teams across a broad spectrum of sports, from traditional powerboating, to sailing and in the automotive world. We’re also progressing discussions with a number of brands, corporations and organisations seeking to compete as teams in the UIM E1 World Championship. I’m sure this is just the start of an exciting line-up of RaceBirds for our first racing season in 2023.”

Venice Racing Team has a home embedded in the core values and principles of E1. Known around the world as the ‘City of Water’, Venice is seeking to be an innovative leader in sustainability.

Some of the founding members of Venice Racing Team are also involved in a new start-up operated together with the city’s Chamber of Commerce, called E-Concept SRL. They have been tasked with developing new renewable energy projects, with a particular focus on promoting the electrification of marine mobility. From this initiative the E-Dock project was created to provide electric charging points for the busy waterways in Venice.

**Mayor of Venice, Luigi Brugnaro**, commented: “The Salone Nautico has always maintained among its main goals a particular focus on sustainability themes, also in line with its recent nomination as the World Sustainability Capital.

“Speaking on behalf of the City of Venice, we can only wish that the new Venice Racing Team will best represent a reality that boasts in its history an important contribution to traditional motorboating.”

**Francesco Pannoli, Team Principal of Venice Racing Team**, said: “We’re honoured to be the one to first join this beautiful and engaging project. This is an important moment of transition for Venice, Veneto, Italy and the entire world when it comes to sustainable mobility, even in the water. The E1 World Championship represents a revolution in the nautical world, it gives to the passion for racing the responsibility of being the driver of positive change.”

**Eugenio Razelli, CEO & Chairman of Venice Racing Team**, added: “This project is selecting new green technologies, which are key to the future of our planet and are common for many different industries and applications.”

Stay tuned for more news and announcements coming from the E1 World Championship. To learn more about E1, scroll down to the ‘About E1’ section, or visit – [www.e1series.com](http://www.e1series.com)

≈ ENDS ≈

**Notes to editors:**

For further information on the E1 World Championship or to request hi-res images, please contact:

**Sam Mallinson**

Director of Communications

[sam@e1series.com](mailto:sam@e1series.com)

+44 (0) 7766 033 521

**About the UIM E1 World Championship:**

E1 is the world's first electric raceboat championship sanctioned by the Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM), the international governing body of powerboating. The championship was established to create an exciting, competitive on-water racing platform based on electric technologies to protect and restore our waters and coastal areas.

The UIM E1 World Championship will see up to 12 teams and 24 pilots racing on the water in iconic cities around the world. The E1 pilots will tackle tight and technical circuits behind the wheel of the RaceBird boat co-designed by SeaBird Technologies and Victory Marine.

Series organisers are continuing to accelerate preparations ahead of the eagerly anticipated inaugural season, scheduled to take place in early 2023. In the coming months, E1 will focus on finalising details with candidate host cities and teams, as well as working with the expert engineers at Victory Marine to build a full fleet of electric raceboats.

For the latest news and updates, follow us **@E1Series** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).  
**#WaterElectrified**