

01. Raphaëla's sailboard (wind surfboard)

The Raphaëla Le Gouvello education packet - Windsurfing solo across the Indian Ocean

<http://www.respectocean.com>



Technologies



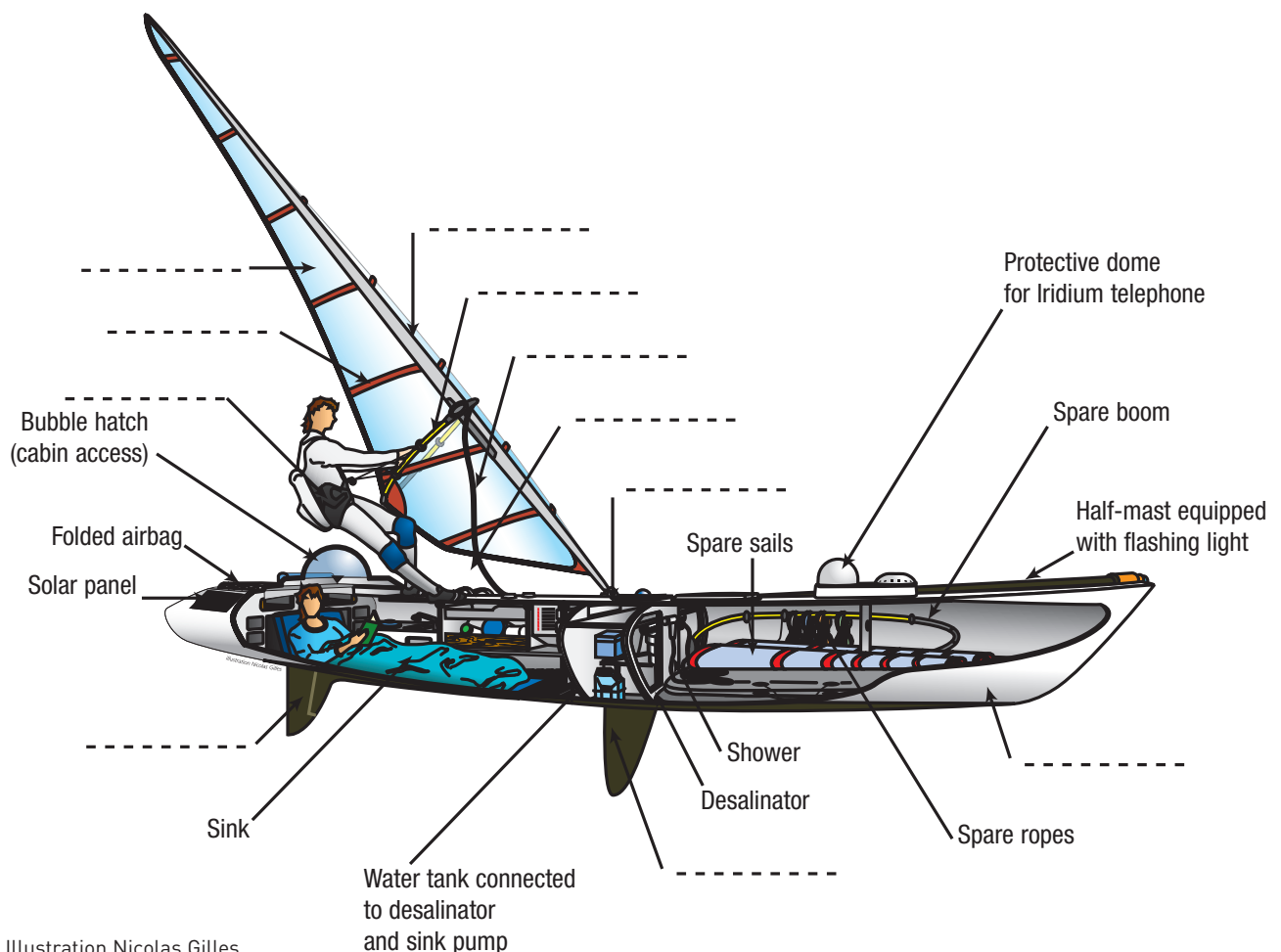
Activity

Provide the missing information in the sailboard diagram below, giving the names of the sailboard details that you know. You can help yourself by referring to the list on the following page.

Raphaëla's sailboard, 7.8 meters (25.6 feet) long and 0.75 meters (30 inches) thick, is very resistant of course, and relatively light. It is constructed of a laminated carbon/kevlar/epoxy sandwich foam and, despite its light weight, is designed for speed and cutting through waves. It must be sufficiently stable upright, but unstable when overturned so that it doesn't stay upside down when capsized. The board's maximum sail area is 7.4 square meters (24.3 sq. ft.) It must accommodate life aboard, sleeping, eating, and resting, sheltered from the elements in a small space 2.45 meters (8 feet long), 0.52 meters (20 inches) wide, and 0.80 meters (31 inches) high.

Raphaëla also has space to store wet sails and outfits, housing for a pivoting centerboard, separate watertight lockers, twin watertight battery blocks and all the on-board provisions for an ocean voyage, not to mention a desalinator, toolbox, and gas stove.

An onboard airbag system will right the sailboard automatically should it capsize or have difficulty re-righting. The emergency system can be activated either inside or outside the cabin.



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Some sailor vocabulary, so you're not taken for a land lubber!

Tack (verb): to change direction by turning the bow into the wind and shifting the sail to head in an opposite direction.

Tack (noun): the windward side of the board.

Port: left side of the board facing forward.

Center board: underwater stabilizing fin in the longitudinal axis of the sailboard which may be raised or lowered to avoid drifting

Jibe (verb): to change the board's course when sailing with the wind so that the stern passes through the eye of the wind and the wishbone boom swings in the opposite direction.

Foot strap: attachment to hold the foot in place for sailing.

Rigging: the board's sails, mast, and ropes.

To rig: to ready the sailboard for embarkation.

Harness: life vest or belt with a clip to attach to the wishbone boom.

Batten: strip of wood, fiber glass or carbon inserted in the sail to give it rigidity.

Luffing: moving the mast or sail out of the wind, the reverse of tacking.

Tacking (see tack): to zigzag heading into the wind to advance against it.

Planing: when the sailboard picks up speed, the sailboarder's weight is shifted to the rear (aft) and the sailboard's nose (bow) raises out of the water.

Becalmed: total absence of wind

Mast base: generic term covering all elements connecting the mast to the sailboard's deck.

Rudder blade: the submerged portion of the rudder.

Uphaul: thick knotted rope used to pull the rigging (sail + mast + wishbone boom) from the water.

Starboard: right side of the board facing forward.

Wishbone boom: bar used by the windsurfer to hold and orient the sail.