



## DISCOVERY Yacht ILLIMITÉ participates in the UMT Ocean Monitoring Project

Whilst sailing the Straits of Malacca in April Noelle and Gary, owners of SV ILLIMITÉ participated as citizen scientists in the Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) Ocean Monitoring Project. The couple successfully collected 18 water samples from the sampling points which were surface as well as 5 meters off the bottom every 45 nautical miles.

Prior training on the sampling equipment was provided by Dr. Poh Seng Chee, Lead Scientist for the project, before Noelle and Gary started on their journey and a debrief session was held upon the completion. Along the way the citizen scientists recorded a range of observable and measurable data in conjunction with systematically photographing conditions reported during their expedition

This long-term research and monitoring project is initiated by the UMT and is focused around the waters of Peninsular Malaysia, undertaken by private vessels which form part of the SeaKeepers Discovery Yachts programme. The aim of this project is to encourage individuals, yacht owners and the marina community groups to get involved whilst on their sailing itinerary to monitor the South China Sea and the surroundings areas via water sampling and collecting data on marine debris or microplastic and marine organisms present.

As a community-based research project it has the potential to make significant contributions to the advancement of marine sciences and environmental protection awareness. Benefits include enhancing the understanding of ocean productivity and increasing the environmental awareness towards combating plastic pollution in the marine environment.

Our grateful thanks to Noelle and Gary for their participation and for helping to maximise the project with up-to-date marine data that is of high quality and with resolution.

Follow Noelle and Gary on their continuing sailing adventures via their blogs:

<https://alohanoelle.blogspot.com>   <http://garysboat.blogspot.com>

Expedition Gallery

Partner Sites

Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT): <http://www.umt.edu.my>

SV ILLIMITÉ : <http://garysboat.blogspot.com> <https://alohanoelle.blogspot.com>

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