

Delta Lloyd in the points

■ Third place overall finish for Ger O'Rourke's boat in the Boston in-port series of races

Nick Rabbitts

DELTA LLOYD, the Limerick-owned Volvo Ocean Race team, secured a highly-coveted podium finish in the Boston in-port race held at the weekend.

The team, owned by local businessman Ger O'Rourke, took second place in the first of the two in-port races being held during the stopover in Boston, taking third place overall and adding three valuable points to their overall total.

The boat, running at a fraction of the budget of the top teams in the gruelling 37,000 round the world race, is now just seven points behind the nearest team on the leaderboard, with strong hopes of a good finish in the next stage, which finishes in Galway on May 23.

Speaking recently to the Limerick Leader, Chieftain Construction's Ger O'Rourke said he was optimistic of a strong showing in the next stage, which will cross the Atlantic from Boston, stopping on the West Coast of Ireland.

"I hope to get a fifth, maybe even a fourth. I would love a podium finish and it is possible," explained Ger, who captained Delta Lloyd in the early stages of the race, before returning to Limerick due to business reasons.

"The positioning of the scoring gate on the Boston to Galway leg will



Delta Lloyd passes Green Dragon during the Boston in-port race held this weekend, and above, owner Ger O'Rourke pictured on led 1 of the Volvo Ocean Race.

PICTURES: SANDER PLUIJM AND RICK TOMLINSON
TEAM DELTA LLOYD/VOLVO OCEAN RACE

allow an underdog like ourselves to strike, the tactics for the leg will be very important - tactics can change the result."

Up to 250,000 people are expected to attend the Galway leg of the Volvo Ocean Race, with another in-port race scheduled for May 30. The two-week stopover will be worth an estimated €43 million to the local economy.

"I hope to meet up with the boat in Galway and join in the in-port race, there will be great excitement and hopefully we can get a good, respectable finish," said O'Rourke.

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uncommon for hospitals that both Camillus' and for patients from Ennis