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Patron-sponsored disabled Royal Marines veteran smashes able-bodied record for transatlantic row

Patron Capital is proud to congratulate Lee Spencer, known as 'The Rowing Marine', who has become the first physically disabled person to row solo and unsupported across the Atlantic, East to West, from Europe to South America, undertaken in aid of the Royal Marines Charity and the Endeavour Fund. **Lee has not only beaten the physically disabled record of 109 days, but also the current able-bodied record of 97 days, set by Stein Hoff in 2002.** To date, he has raised nearly £50,000 for the charities.

Lee set off from Gibraltar in early January and reached Cayenne in French Guiana, completing the 3,500 mile challenge after 61 days alone at sea. Having completed the journey as a part of the Row2Recovery team in 2016, Lee this time faced the same extreme conditions, dangerous waters and navigational challenges without the support and additional power of rowing in a team.

Lee has kept his followers up to date via social media channels over the course of his journey, sharing the special moment where sperm whales swam alongside him, the difficulties of losing his navigation system near the start of the challenge, and the more relatable experience of 'really craving a proper cup of tea'. Along the way, he has received messages of support from famous well wishers such as Gareth Southgate and Ross Kemp.

Keith Breslauer, Managing Director of Patron Capital, said:

"We are privileged to support and work with some incredible individuals through our partnership with The Royal Marines Charity and have been involved with some epic expeditions. However, Lee Spencer is truly extraordinary. Not only is the physical achievement of rowing 3,500 miles unsupported a tremendous accomplishment, but to beat both the disabled and able-bodied records goes beyond being merely impressive; he is an inspiration to anyone in physical fortitude and mental resilience. I am looking forward to congratulating him in person and hope he finds his 'proper cup of tea' in the meantime."

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Notes to Editors

About Patron Capital Partners

Patron represents approximately €3.4 billion of capital across several funds and related co-investments, investing in property, corporate operating entities whose value is primarily supported by property assets and distressed debt and credit related businesses.

Since it was established in 1999, Patron has invested in over 71 investments and programs involving over 65 million square feet (6 million square metres) in 16 countries, with many of these investments realised.

Investors represent a variety of sovereign wealth funds, prominent universities, major institutions, private foundations, and high net worth individuals located throughout North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The main investment adviser to the Funds is Patron Capital Advisers LLP, which is based in London, and Patron has other offices across Europe including Barcelona, Milan and Luxembourg; the group is comprised of 77 people, including a 45-person investment team.

Further information about Patron Capital is available at www.patroncapital.com

