

# HARRIS Joe/WELLS FARGO-AMERICAN PIONEER

**Date of birth** 29/09/1959    **Nationality** American    **Place of birth** Greenwich, Connecticut  
**Current residence** Hamilton, Massachusetts    **Personal status** married, 2 children  
**Previous participation in The Transat** none



## MINI PROFILE

Born and raised in Greenwich, CT, Joe Harris grew up sailing on Long Island Sound, mentored by his father - an offshore racer with 18 Newport-Bermuda Races to his credit - and his grandfather, a veteran of five transatlantic voyages.

After graduating from Brown University in 1981, Harris spent his summers working as a commercial fisherman in Bristol Bay, Alaska, and his winters as a boat builder in New England. In his thirties, he received an MBA from Babson College and embarked on a career in real estate finance. He advanced rapidly to his current position as CFO of New Boston Fund, Inc. a \$1.5 billion real estate investment and development company.

As a sailor Harris has owned and campaigned a series of boats over the last 15 years, competing in every major East Coast regatta and offshore race, including eight Newport-Bermuda, three Marblehead-Halifax and two Bermuda One/Two races. He also completed a transatlantic passage from Europe to the Caribbean to New England, as well as numerous deliveries and charters totalling over 25,000 offshore miles.

His Open 50, a Groupe Finot design, is one of the most potent on the water having competed in the last two Around Alone races as Mike Garside's Magellan Alpha and scored a class win on every leg of the 2002/2003 race as Brad van Liew's Tommy Hilfiger Freedom America. Van Liew is working with Harris as a coach and shore manager.

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

8 Newport-Bermuda races  
3 Marblehead-Halifax races  
2 Bermuda One/Two races  
1 Trans-Atlantic passage  
Over 25,000 offshore miles

## PR CONTACT

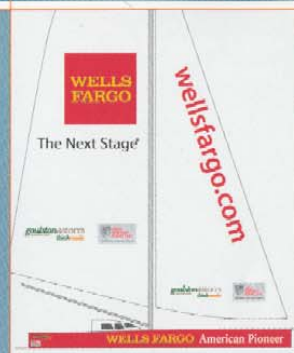
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## BOAT

- Designer(s): Finot
- Builders: JMV Industries
- Launched: 1997
- Length: 15.24m
- Beam: 4.95m
- Displacement: 4717kg
- Draught: 4.12m
- Mainsail area: 114m<sup>2</sup>
- Solent area: 80m<sup>2</sup>
- Gennaker area: 135m<sup>2</sup>
- Total sail area upwind: 192m<sup>2</sup>
- Total sail area downwind: 249m<sup>2</sup>
- Sail number: 52550

## Boat's track record

- 2002** 1st Class 2 Around Alone/  
Tommy Hilfiger Freedom  
America skipper  
Brad Van Liew
- 1998** 2nd Class 2 Around Alone/  
Magellan Alpha skipper  
Mike Garside



## Why I want to do The Transat:

"I've been working towards my dream of racing around the world solo for twenty years. I've owned a series of boats and competed in dozens of events, but now I am up against the pros. The Transat will be a great test for me and a nice shakedown before we conduct a comprehensive refit for the 5-Oceans in 2006."