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# PRESSE RELEASE

## GLENN ASHBY BECOMES EUROPEAN CHAMPION OF A-CATS, FREDDY LÖÖF LEADS OK DINGHY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

*Until the last day of the race, Glenn Ashby (Australia) easily controlled the strong group of 95 A-Cat sailors from 16 nations. Manuel Calavia (Spain) came second and was followed by Maciej Żarnowski (Poland). After six races, Freddy Lööf (Sweden) leads the OK Dinghy World Championship ahead of Jan Kurfeld and Andre Budzien (Germany). Tomorrow, the Gold fleet competitors will meet for the first time. At 4 pm, after two races, the OK Dinghy World Championship will be announced.*

The 40-year-old Glenn Ashby never seemed stressed during Warnemünder Woche. With four first places in five races and one third place he established himself as a solid sailor. "Warnemünde offers a very good sailing area, even though the weather conditions this week were very demanding. For me it was a great opportunity to sail A-Cat against the best A-Cat sailors I know. And now I even gained the title. It's perfect," he explains in a relaxed manner. The weather conditions for the A-Cats were truly not easy. For two days, A-Cat sailors had to stay in the harbour either because of heavy wind or because of too little wind. For Championship races, the class regulations only allow races between a wind window of 6 to 22 knots, i.e. 3 to 5 Beaufort. Should the wind be stronger or weaker, no sailing is allowed. The racing machines are sensitive: Two hulls and wings, so-called foils, lift the hulls out of the water. Already at the age of 18, Glenn Ashby won the European A-Cat Championship for the first time: "I started sailing A-

Cats as a child and still love it until today. You have the freedom to make your own manoeuvre decisions," explains the father of two children.

Ashby is now heading to the USA for a short talk about teamwork during the America's Cup, before a short vacation at home near Melbourne. The work for the next America's Cup will start in Auckland in September.