

THE CITIZEN 12 NOV 2001

Around the world yachts leave Cape for Australia

CAPE TOWN – Amid strong winds, crews of the eight yachts in the Volvo Ocean Race sailed towards Sydney on the second leg of the around the world journey.

The 6 500 nautical mile journey is expected to be one of the most challenging of the race.

The fleet began their journey south of Africa and into the Southern Ocean to catch the swiftest route to Australia.

The fleet made a good start out of the harbour with *News Corp* leading the pack, followed by *Illbruck*.

The *Illbruck* which won the first

leg of the race, has a two-hour lead in the race and survived two dock-side protests last week.

The protests were over a dispute over the yacht's use of the Internet and an unauthorised weedcutter. However, the Internet challenge was later dropped and the team was

fined £1 000 (R14 000) and told to remove the weedcutter.

Following *Illbruck* in the first leg of the 32 700 nautical mile sojourn scheduled to end on June 9 in Kiel, Germany was *Amer Sports One*. It was followed by *News Corp*, *Tyco*, *Assa Abloy*, *SEB* and *Djuice*.

The nine-month race began in Southampton, England, on September 23. After Sydney, the boats will dock in Auckland, New Zealand; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Miami, then Baltimore; La Rochelle, France; Gothenburg, Sweden, before finishing in Kiel. – Sapa-AP.