



**Press Release**

**10 February 2010**

**“DenizBank-TORC 2009 Trophy”, one of the most prestigious sailing races of Turkey, finalized!**

Winners of the DenizBank-TORC Trophy organized by TORC (Turkish Offshore Racing Club) and under the sponsorship of DenizBank, leader in terms of providing financial support for the development of Turkish maritime sector, received their awards in the ceremony held on February 09, 2010, in Fenerbahçe FARUK ILGAZ Facilities. Many sea-lovers were present in the award ceremony held with the participation of several top managers from DenizBank and TORC Commodore, Serdar Kısadere.

Winners of the races that started on March 28, 2009 with Fahir Çelikbaş I and ended on December 19, 2009 Winter Cup-III are Hasip GENCER (UNO) in category IRC I, Nikola ÇERKEZO (CİCİKO) in category IRC II, Can AKBAŞOĞLU (CORBY 29 TR) in category IRC. III, Ejder Varol (i-marine Pamuk) in category IRC. IV and Serdar ÖNER (HIMBİL) in category IRC. V

**Hakan Ateş, President of DenizBank Financial Services Group, made an announcement on the occasion of DenizBank-TORC Trophy. He stated: “With admirable efforts, Turkish Offshore Racing Club provides unique support for the development of sea culture and sea sports in our country. The more we are interested and successful in sailing the more dominant we become in international arena and the more proud we are on behalf of our country. As an institution, we adopted “passion, ambition and respect”, the must-have values of sea culture and sea discipline, as our philosophy of life and we do what is takes in this regard. Last year we had made cooperation with TORC for the “One Design” races, which were launched with TORC and hosted same-type yachts. The financing of this effort of TORC was provided by DenizBank. We have found out that in coming days, 50 teams, i.e. 250 sailors have registered to the races in which they will compete with their own efforts rather than the skills of the boats. This deep interest made us very happy. It is a very honouring development to be a partner of this important project in which 250 sea-lovers will compete in our country in February.”**

Serdar Kısadere, TORC Commodore has stated that “DenizBank, our corporate sponsor has given great support to our races as our corporate sponsor last year too and continues to give its name to the Denizbank TORC Trophy. I would like to extend my gratitude to Denizbank for their valuable support on behalf of Turkish sailing.”

114 IRC class and 23 support classes, a total of 137 yachts and 1300 sportsman entered the races in 2009 organized in the scope of DenizBank-TAYK Trophy. Apart from two races that could not take place due to lack of wind, a total of 20 races i.e. 7 off-shore races and 13 inshore races, were organized including DenizBank Marmara Cup, Naval Forces Cup I, II and III step races, Çakabey-928 race, Moda Sea Club Cup and Chamber of Maritime Trade Cup.

Different from previous years, in 2009 the DUO race which is carried out with teams of two brought a different kind of excitement to Turkish sailing.