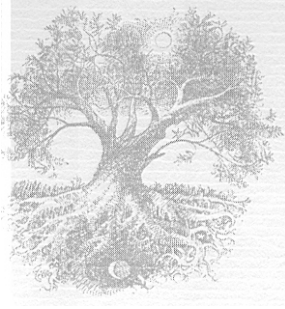


Charles Hervé-Gruyer  
Manager of the ARCHIPEL company  
19 rue Claude Dalsème  
92190 Meudon  
France



Meudon (France), March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006

To whom it may concern,

**Subject:** Reference letter for Mr. Fabrice Vauclair.

I, Charles Hervé Gruyer, shipowner of “*Fleur de Lampaul*” (32 metres, 62 GT, 120 tons), registered as a merchant ship from the French merchant marine between 1985 and 2001, and manager of the ARCHIPEL company between 1985 and 2001, certify that Fabrice Vauclair has been employed on board during several expeditions. First, he spent one year in 1987-1988 as a pupil. Then, he works as a mate for commercial operations and cruises along the French coast. And finally, he was employed as first mate during the two years and a half of the “*Peuples de l'eau*” expedition in 1992-1994. During this last expedition, we sailed from France along the West-African coast (Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau), we crossed the Atlantic ocean to south and central-America (French Guyana, West-Indies, Bahamas) and then we sailed back to France through Florida, Bermuda and Azores Islands.

I know Fabrice Vauclair very well as I sailed with him during the navigations mentioned above. During his stays on board, he always showed great qualities in navigation and human relations and he always fulfilled his tasks and function on board with a great professionalism. I appreciate, as well as all his colleagues, his sense of responsibility. He is a very conscientious, reliable and calm person in whom we can trust. I also appreciate his deep motivation and passion for the sea and his extensive knowledge that was very profitable for the entire crew.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Hervé Gruyer

