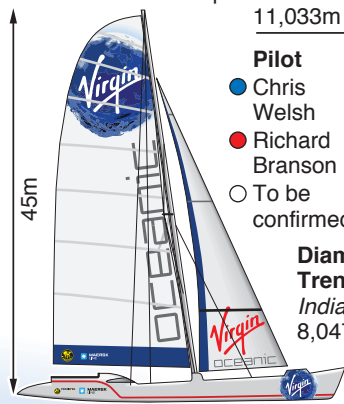


Virgin mission to explore five ocean depths

Richard Branson's *Virgin Oceanic* project plans to reach the deepest parts of the world's oceans using a solo-piloted submarine. The jet-like craft will attempt five record-breaking dives over two years, beginning with a descent to the Mariana Trench – the deepest point on Earth

CATAMARAN

Serves as mothership



45m



Sub to scale

Mariana Trench

Pacific Ocean
11,033m

Pilot

- Chris Welsh
- Richard Branson
- To be confirmed

Diamantina Trench
Indian Ocean
8,047m

"FIVE DIVES"



Molloy Deep

Arctic Ocean
5,608m

Puerto Rico Trench

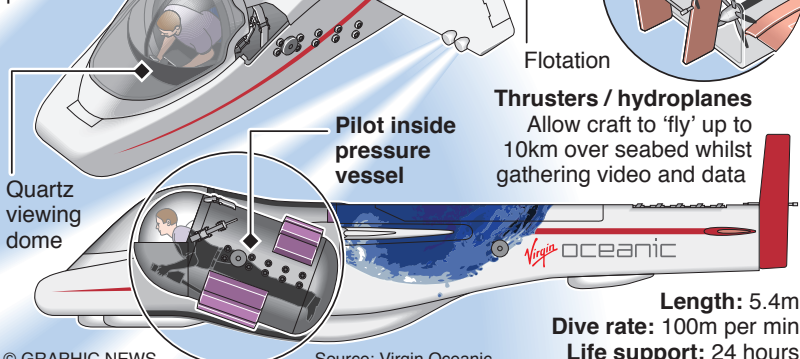
Atlantic Ocean
8,605m

South Sandwich Trench

Southern Ocean
7,235m

DEEPFLIGHT CHALLENGER

Made of titanium and carbon fibre.
Resists over 1,000 times normal atmospheric pressure



Quartz viewing dome

Pilot inside pressure vessel

Batteries

Flotation

Thrusters / hydroplanes

Allow craft to 'fly' up to 10km over seabed whilst gathering video and data

Length: 5.4m

Dive rate: 100m per min

Life support: 24 hours