RALLY BOHEMIA 1974 - 2015

Ceremonial Start Echoes 42nd Rally Bohemia (Czech Rally Championship

Press Release No. 14 Mladá Boleslav, 10th July 2015

The evening Ceremonial start opened the 42nd Rally Bohemia, Rally Bohemia Historic as well as Rally Bohemia Legend in front of the crowded Staroměstské náměstí (square) in Mladá Boleslav. Some short press conferences were part of the ceremonial start.

Rally Bohemia has been through its ceremonial opening. What interesting about the Czech Rally Championship was said at the press conference participated by the first three crews of the start list, namely Jan Kopecký – Pavel Dresler, Esapekka Lappi – Janne Ferm from ŠKODA Motorsport team and Václav Pech – Petr Uhel from EuroOil invelt Czech National team?

Jan Kopecký: "We have already won Rally Bohemia with various types of Škoda cars, however, so far we lack the victory with the new Škoda Fabia R5 – and this is what we want to achieve this year. We have won at Bohemia twice in a row, and so far even this year we have clung the winning series in the national championship, which we will try to prolong. It is rather challenging than tying down for us, and we are looking forward to the hard fight with competitors, it's the big fights that add some spice to the rally."

Esapekka Lappi: "Last week we experienced a perfect Polish Rally included in the World Championship where we were the fastest in category RC2 with Škoda Fabia R5. In Poland we ran on gravel, which I prefer to asphalt that is here. I am not taking part in the Czech Championship, so I do not have any strategy either. We can drive before Jan Kopecký - but, in fact, after him as well ... so we'll see."

Bohdan Wojnar, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member: **"I would like to wish all crews to enjoy the competition and to reach excellent sports results. Of course, I also wish all of them to complete the competition in health, and success to the best and fastest. However, naturally, I will keep my fingers crossed for our Škoda green colours!**"

Václav Pech: "I am looking forward to the race much, and for the time being, I am not concerned with our result yet. Here at the press conference I am sitting with the European champions as well as with the champions of the Asia-Pacific Championship as I have just heard, and just this is an experience :-) Of course, this is a great challenge for a good result, in addition, the special stages are really hard."

"I am looking forward to the race as well, especially, when we have been told





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in our team that once we beat the Škoda crews, we will win," closed Petr Uhel the press conference with a smile.

Part of the Ceremonial Start were also press conferences of Rally Bohemia Historic and Rally Bohemia Legend, on which we will inform you later. All the information about this year Rally Bohemia can be found on the official website of the competition <u>www.rallybohemia.cz</u>.

The traditional general partner of Rally Bohemia is ŠKODA AUTO.

Rally Bohemia can be also found at social network. Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/rallybohemia</u> Twitter: <u>twitter.com/RallyBohemia</u> Youtube: <u>www.youtube.com/user/RallyBohemia</u> Instagram: <u>instagram.com/rallybohemia</u>

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