



ŠKODA Motorsport, Page 1 of 3

New kid on the block: Customer rally scene awaits the new ŠKODA Fabia R 5 excitedly

- › ŠKODA Motorsport continues its customer racing programme
- › Customers already showing great interest in the new Fabia R 5 rally car
- › Michal Hrabánek: "Fabia R 5 will follow on from the success of the Fabia Super 2000"
- › Customers receive not only an ultra-modern rally car, but also support from the ŠKODA Motorsport team

Mladá Boleslav, 13 March 2015 – Following its success with the Fabia Super 2000, the ŠKODA Motorsport customer racing programme is now set to continue with the new Fabia R 5. The rally world is already showing huge interest in the Czech automobile manufacturer's new rally car, and there is already a long waiting list for the high-tech, four-wheel drive Fabia R 5 with its new turbo engine.

"The Fabia Super 2000 has been an important figurehead for our brand in recent years. The success of this car is emphatic proof of the technical expertise and passion that the entire ŠKODA team shows for motorsport. We will follow on from this with the R 5," said ŠKODA Motorsport Director Michal Hrabánek. "And it would appear that a lot of private motorsport teams are also confident of this. We already have a long list of potential customers."

The Fabia Super 2000 has shown that money is well invested in a ŠKODA rally car. Over 60 of the car, which is now the most successful model in the 114-year success story of ŠKODA Motorsport, were sold in six years as part of the customer racing programme, to customers ranging from Australia to Paraguay. Almost 50 international and national titles have been won with the Fabia Super 2000. A full five of these were claimed by experienced rally driver Raimund Baumschlager in his native Austria. As with the Fabia Super 2000, Baumschlager is now a member of the ŠKODA team developing and testing the new Fabia R 5.

"The Fabia Super 2000 has been the best car in its class, and I believe that the Fabia R 5 will be the same in the future," said Baumschlager. "I have tested it on snow, asphalt and gravel – and it has made an excellent impression on every surface."

As well as a competitive car, customers purchasing the brand-new Fabia R 5 also receive technical support from the ŠKODA Motorsport team. "This way, both sides can share their know-how and benefit from each other in the long-term," said Hrabánek. The head of motorsport at ŠKODA is assuming that the Fabia R 5, which was developed based on the production model of the Fabia, will be homologated by the International Automobile Federation FIA. Once it has been successfully approved, the process of delivering the cars to customers will begin.



ŠKODA Motorsport, Page 2 of 3

They will receive a spectacular racing car with four-wheel drive, powered by a 1.6-litre turbo engine in accordance with FIA regulations. Besides modifications to the design of the chassis, this is the largest technical change compared to the two-litre induction engine in the Fabia Super 2000. The new car also features a five-speed sequential gearbox and McPherson struts. The weight is at least 1,230 kilograms, as specified in the regulations. Baumschlager: "The Fabia R 5 is even more accurate to drive, and its turbo engine means gives you a mighty amount of torque."

For more information:

Karel Pokorný, Communications Motorsport
Ph. +420 604 292 191

Karel.Pokorny1@skoda-auto.cz

<http://www.skoda-auto.com/en/motorsport>

ŠKODA Motorsport:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter

Media images:



Customer rally scene awaits the new ŠKODA Fabia R 5 excitedly

"Fast" Freddy Loix (B) and co-driver Johan Gitsels (B) won their home round of the European Rally Championship (ERC) in Belgium with their ŠKODA last year.

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



Customer rally scene awaits the new ŠKODA Fabia R 5 excitedly

Multiple winner of the Austrian rally championship, Raimund Baumschlager (A), is an avid customer of ŠKODA Motorsport and part of the test team developing the new Fabia R 5.

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport, Page 3 of 3

ŠKODA Motorsport Overview

ŠKODA has been involved in the world of motorsport since 1901. The brand has taken home many trophies from the Intercontinental Rally Challenge (IRC), FIA European Rally Championship (ERC), FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship (APRC) and several famous races, such as the oldest rally in the world – the Monte Carlo, which has taken place annually since 1911.

The Fabia Super 2000 rally car is the most successful model in ŠKODA's 114-year history in motorsport. In 2014, ŠKODA won a hat-trick of titles in the Manufacturers' and Drivers' competitions in the APRC. The new reigning champions Jan Kopecký/Pavel Dresler (CZ/CZ) achieved the momentous feat of becoming the first duo in history to win the Drivers' title in the ERC and then the APRC in consecutive years.

In the ERC, ŠKODA Motorsport took the title for the third time in a row in 2014, thanks to Esapekka Lappi/Janne Ferm (FIN/FIN) with the ŠKODA Fabia Super 2000. Before Lappi, the Finn Juho Hänninen (2012) and Jan Kopecký (2013) had won the European title with the ŠKODA Fabia Super 2000.

Between 2009 and 2014, ŠKODA Fabia Super 2000 drivers won a total of 28 national titles worldwide.

As of 2015, the ŠKODA Fabia R 5 will be taking over the reins from the Super 2000 and continuing ŠKODA's success story in motorsport. A global audience was given a first glimpse of ŠKODA's future rally car with the R 5 concept car at the 2014 Essen Motor Show.

ŠKODA AUTO

- > is one of the longest-established vehicle production companies in the world. In 1895, the Czech headquarters in Mladá Boleslav began producing bicycles, followed by the production of motorbikes and cars.
- > currently has seven passenger car models: Citigo, Fabia, Roomster/Praktik, Rapid, Octavia, Yeti and Superb.
- > in 2014 delivered more than one million vehicles to customers around the world for the first time in a single year.
- > has belonged to Volkswagen since 1991. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful automotive groups in the world. ŠKODA, in association with the Group, independently manufactures and develops vehicles, as well as components, engines and gear transmissions.
- > operates at three locations in the Czech Republic. It also manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia and India, mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan through local partners.
- > employs over 25,800 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.