

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 1 of 3



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Next generation Rally2 version of ŠKODA FABIA has entered test phase

- › Future rally car is based on the all-new ŠKODA FABIA road car
- › Extensive test program on tarmac and gravel stages underway
- › Championship winning rally car from ŠKODA prepares for next stage of success during the company's 120th year in motorsport

Mladá Boleslav, 20 August 2021 – ŠKODA Motorsport is busy developing a rally version of the all-new ŠKODA FABIA. A first prototype of the future ŠKODA FABIA in Rally2 version has already been tested on tarmac and gravel roads in the Czech Republic, France and Spain.

The all-new ŠKODA FABIA is coming onto the international market. As the road car makes the switch from generation three to four, the rally version follows suit. ŠKODA Motorsport has already started testing the future ŠKODA FABIA in Rally2 version. A first prototype has been in action on gravel and tarmac stages in the Czech Republic, France and Spain recently.

"The all-new ŠKODA FABIA for the Rally2 category has entered the development and testing stage. Fortunately, our technicians can build on comprehensive know-how and expertise of the ongoing ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo project, which still is very successful worldwide," comments Michal Hrabánek, Head of ŠKODA Motorsport.

Since April 2015, the ŠKODA FABIA is collecting more rally trophies than any other car in its category. Starting with a so-called R5 version, which has later been renamed to Rally2, the Czech rally car until today racked up nine titles in support categories to the FIA World Rally Championship, numerous regional and national championships, nearly 1.400 overall and class victories as well as close to 3.300 podium positions worldwide. ŠKODA Motorsport has already sold more than 400 units of the R5, Rally2 and Rally2 evo variants.

According to the Rally2 regulations of the FIA, the next generation Rally2 version of the ŠKODA FABIA is again powered by a 1.6 litres turbo petrol engine connected to a five-speed sequential gearbox and four-wheel drive with mechanical differentials.

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE



ŠKODA
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Page 2 of 3

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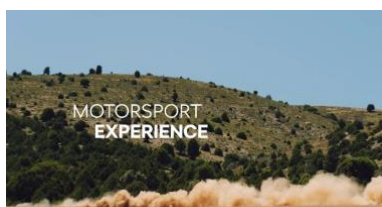


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Video and media image:



Video: Next generation ŠKODA FABIA in Rally2 version

The video shows first impressions of the all-new Rally2 version of the ŠKODA FABIA during testing. The development car is scheduled to undergo further testing on gravel and tarmac stages in the coming months.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



Next generation ŠKODA FABIA in Rally2 version

Earning a reputation as most successful rally car of its category over the past six years, the ŠKODA FABIA in Rally2 format will switch to the next generation.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO

ŠKODA Motorsport Overview

ŠKODA has been successful in motorsports since 1901. Be it on the circuit or in rallies, ŠKODA has celebrated victories and won titles all around the world. Historical highlights include victory in the European Touring Car Championship 1981 as well as multiple titles in the FIA World Rally Championship's WRC2 category. Over the years, ŠKODA customer teams also won numerous national championships as well as titles in the FIA European Rally Championship (ERC), the Intercontinental Rally Challenge (IRC), the FIA African Rally Championship (ARC), the FIA North American and Central American Rally Championship (NACAM), the FIA South American Rally Championship (CODASUR) and the FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship (APRC). ŠKODA teams have also triumphed in the world's oldest and most famous rally, taking several class victories in the legendary Rallye Monte-Carlo, which was first held in 1911.

In 2009, the ŠKODA FABIA S2000 took the rally scene by storm. The following seasons, the all-wheel-drive rally car with a 2.0 litres normally aspirated engine won 50 national and international titles worldwide. It then wrote the most successful chapter in ŠKODA's motorsport history – until its successor surpassed it. The ŠKODA FABIA R5, a production-based rally car with four-wheel drive and 1.6 litres turbo engine, was homologated in its original form by the International Automobile Federation FIA on 1 April 2015. Further developed to ŠKODA FABIA R5 evo (homologated on 1 April 2019), the high-tech car successfully continues the long tradition of ŠKODA Motorsport. Due to changes in regulations, the car was re-named to ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo in 2020.

The success story of the ŠKODA FABIA R5 took off in 2016, when Esapekka Lappi (FIN) won the WRC2 drivers' title of the FIA World Rally Championship. The following year, Pontus Tidemand (SWE) won the WRC2 drivers' category, while ŠKODA Motorsport took the WRC2 manufacturers' title. In 2018, ŠKODA factory driver Jan Kopecký was

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 3 of 3



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crowned WRC 2 drivers' champion. 2019 was the most successful year in the history of ŠKODA Motorsport. Kalle Rovanperä and Jonne Halttunen (FIN/FIN) won the WRC2 Pro drivers' and co-drivers' title as well as substantially supporting ŠKODA Motorsport to win the WRC2 Pro manufacturers' title. In 2020 ŠKODA customer team Toksport WRT became Team Champion of the WRC2 category.

ŠKODA AUTO

- › is successfully steering through the new decade with the NEXT LEVEL – ŠKODA STRATEGY 2030.
- › aims to be one of the five best-selling brands in Europe by 2030 with an attractive line-up in the entry-level segments and additional e-models.
- › is emerging as the leading European brand in India, Russia and North Africa.
- › currently offers its customers ten passenger-car series: the FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ, KODIAQ, ENYAQ iV and KUSHAQ.
- › delivered over one million vehicles to customers around the world in 2020.
- › has been a member of the Volkswagen Group for 30 years. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world.
- › independently manufactures and develops not only vehicles but also components such as engines and transmissions in association with the Group.
- › operates at three sites in the Czech Republic; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia and India primarily through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine with a local partner.
- › employs more than 43,000 people globally and is active in over 100 markets.