

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 1 of 4



Rallye Monte-Carlo: ŠKODA driver Andreas Mikkelsen wins WRC2 at the legendary event for the third time

- › After 2017 and 2021, reigning WRC2 Champion Andreas Mikkelsen again drives a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo to category victory at the season opener
- › Norwegian and new co-driver Torstein Eriksen win four stages in WRC2 classification and achieve a remarkable seventh position overall
- › Toksport WRT teammates Nikolay Gryazin/Konstantin Aleksandrov (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) from Russia finish third in WRC2 overall and second in WRC2 Junior

Monte-Carlo, 23 January 2022 – Andreas Mikkelsen started his project of defending the WRC2 Drivers' Championship in style. Together with co-driver Torstein Eriksen, the ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo driver from Norway won the category at the season opening Rallye Monte-Carlo (20-23 January 2022). Russians Nikolay Gryazin/Konstantin Aleksandrov and Britons Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock, also driving for ŠKODA Motorsport backed team Toksport WRT, finished second and fourth respectively in the inaugural WRC2 Junior competition.

It wasn't all plain sailing. During the last stage on Saturday, Andreas Mikkelsen had to stop his ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo to change a punctured wheel. Mikkelsen and co-driver Torstein Eriksen completed the job in little more than 90 seconds. Amazing in itself, but it would not have been enough to defend the WRC2 lead, which stood at 23 seconds going into this stage. But pursuers Yohan Rossell/Benjamin Boulloud didn't grab the chance. In the very same stage, the Frenchmen slid off the road on one of the rare icy patches and lost nearly three minutes. "When we stopped for the tyre change, I thought, the fight for victory was over. But that's rally, anything can happen" Mikkelsen commented.

He didn't give bad luck a second chance. Mikkelsen/Eriksen completed the four stages of Sunday without any further problems. They not only won the category WRC2 by nearly a minute, they also finished seventh overall. "Perfect job from Torstein. We had only a few miles together in the car before the 'Monte', but he delivered the notes exactly as I need them," Mikkelsen praised his new co-driver. "I couldn't have asked for a better start to the season. I'm also happy to give this victory to the team, they really deserved it."

Already in 2021 Mikkelsen won WRC2 at the legendary season opener at the wheel of a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo run by Germany based team Toksport WRT. He celebrated his first Rallye Monte-Carlo category victory in 2017 as member of the official ŠKODA Motorsport squad.

Mikkelsen's teammates at Toksport WRT, Nikolay Gryazin and co-driver Konstantin Aleksandrov from Russia, fought back to third overall in WRC2. They lost nearly three minutes after hitting a rock on Thursday (stage 2). „It's good to have a podium and to score the points, because we work towards the championship," Gryazin concluded. At the same time, the 24-years-old took second place in the newly created class WRC2 Junior. Britons Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock, the 2019 European Rally Champions, reached the finish fourth in the junior's category.

Follow us on the [ŠKODA Motorsport](#) website and social media:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter



Instagram

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

Page 2 of 4

Like in the WRC2 overall classification, two ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews climbed onto the WRC2 Masters podium. Italians Mauro Miele/Luca Beltrame won the new class for drivers aged 50 and over. Former ŠKODA factory driver Freddy Loix and navigator Pieter Tsjoen from Belgium followed in third.

The FIA World Rally Championship next travels to Scandinavia. Rally Sweden (24-27 February 2022) is the second round. To secure top wintery conditions, the tradition-rich event has moved its base from Karlstad to Umea more to the north of the country.

Result Rallye Monte-Carlo (WRC2)

1. **Mikkelsen/Eriksen (NOR/NOR), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, 3:12:06.6 hrs.**
2. Cais/Těšínský (CZE/CZE), Ford Fiesta Rally2, +55.4 sec.
3. **Gryazin/Aleksandrov (RAF/RAF), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +2:07.5 min.**
4. Johnston/Kihurani (USA/USA), Citroën C3 Rally2, +3:08.7 min.
5. Munster/Louka (LUX/BEL), Hyundai i20 N Rally2, +3:14.2 min.
6. Rossel/Boulloud (FRA/FRA), Citroën C3 Rally2, +3:28.3 min.
7. **Ingram/Whittock (GBR/GBR), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +3:46.6 min.**

Number of the day: 6

ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews scored WRC2 stage victories in six of Rallye Monte-Carlo's 16 regularly run tests. Andreas Mikkelsen and co-driver Torstein Eriksen were fastest four times. Russian Toksport WRT teammates Nikolay Gryazin/Konstantin Aleksandrov left the WRC2 competition behind on two stages.

The FIA World Rally Championship 2022

Rallye Monte-Carlo	20 - 23 January
Rally Sweden	24 - 27 February
Rally Croatia	21 - 24 April
Rally Portugal	19 - 22 May
Rally Italy Sardinia	2 - 5 June
Safari Rally Kenya	23 - 26 June
Rally Estonia	14 - 17 July
Rally Finland	4 - 7 August
<i>Event to be decided</i>	<i>18 - 21 August</i>
Acropolis Rally Greece	8 - 11 September
Rally New Zealand	29 September - 2 October
RallyRACC Rally de España	20 - 23 October
Rally Japan	10 - 13 November

Further information:

Zbyněk Straškraba, Communications Motorsport

P +420 605 293 168

zbynek.straskraba@skoda-auto.cz

<http://skoda-motorsport.com>

Follow us on the [ŠKODA Motorsport](https://www.skoda-motorsport.com) website and social media:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter



Instagram

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 3 of 4



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA Motorsport:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter

Media images:



ŠKODA Motorsport at the Rallye Monte-Carlo

Norwegians Andreas Mikkelsen/Torstein Eriksen drove a Toksport WRT run ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo to WRC2 victory at an unusually dry Rallye Monte-Carlo.

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at the Rallye Monte-Carlo

Third WRC2 victory at Rallye Monte-Carlo for Andreas Mikkelsen (NOR) at the wheel of a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo to, this time supported by Torstein Eriksen (NOR).

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at the Rallye Monte-Carlo

Driving a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo from team Toksport WRT, Russians Nikolay Gryazin/Konstantin Aleksandrov finished third in WRC2 overall and second in WRC2 Junior.

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at the Rallye Monte-Carlo

Former European Rally Champions Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) from Great Britain reached the finish seventh in WRC2 overall and fourth in WRC2 Junior.

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO

ŠKODA Motorsport

- › ŠKODA has been active in motorsport since 1901, garnering success in rallies as well as circuit racing.
- › Highlights include winning the 1981 European Touring Car Championship (ETCC) with the ŠKODA 130 RS.
- › In recent years, the ŠKODA FABIA celebrated numerous successes for the Czech manufacturer on rally stages worldwide. From 2009 to 2014, the ŠKODA FABIA S2000 (2.0 naturally aspirated engine, four-wheel drive) secured 50 international titles and national rally championships. The ŠKODA FABIA S2000 also helped to win the FIA European Rally Championship (ERC) and the Intercontinental Rally Challenge (IRC) three times each.

Follow us on the [ŠKODA Motorsport](#) website and social media:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter



Instagram



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 4 of 4

- › The ŠKODA FABIA R5 (1.6 turbo engine, four-wheel drive) continued the S2000's success story in 2015. In the following years, ŠKODA Motorsport factory drivers took multiple titles in the FIA World Rally Championship's support category WRC2/WRC2 Pro with the models ŠKODA FABIA R5 (Rally2) and ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo. Titles went to Jan Kopecký (CZE), Esapekka Lappi (FIN), Pontus Tidemand (SWE), Kalle Rovanperä (FIN) and Andreas Mikkelsen (NOR). Supported by ŠKODA Motorsport, Toksport WRT became Team Champion of the WRC2 category in 2020.
- › ŠKODA Motorsport customer teams have also won titles in the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC), FIA European Rally Championship (ERC), 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).
- › In 2021, Andreas Mikkelsen (NOR, Toksport WRT) took the WRC2 Drivers' Championship and the FIA European Rally Championship overall at the wheel of a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo.
- › By the end of the 2021 season, the ŠKODA FABIA R5 (Rally2) and ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo had secured over 1,500 victories and more than 3,700 podium positions in 65 countries.

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 870,000 vehicles to customers around the world in 2021.
- › 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 around 43,000 people globally and is active in over 100 markets.

Follow us on the [ŠKODA Motorsport](#) website and social media:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter



Instagram