

**ŠKODA**
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Jan Kopecký celebrates 120 years of ŠKODA in motorsport with ninth victory at Bohemia Rally

- › On ŠKODA Motorsport's home soil, factory-supported Jan Kopecký, this time together with co-driver Jan Hloušek (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo), won Bohemia Rally for a record ninth time
- › At the fourth round of the SONAX Czech Rally Championship, ŠKODA Motorsport entered Dominik Stříteský/Jiří Hovorka conquered an impressive second place with their ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo
- › With Jan Černý/Petr Černohorský finishing third, the Czech brand celebrated a pure ŠKODA podium
- › World Rally Championship regulars Marco Bulacia Wilkinson/Marcel Der Ohannesian finished fifth behind their ŠKODA stablemates Filip Mareš/Radovan Bucha

Mladá Boleslav (CZE), 11 July 2021 – It was a celebration in style: By winning Bohemia Rally, ŠKODA Motorsport test driver Jan Kopecký gave the brand his personal gift on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of ŠKODA's activities in motorsport. The seven times Czech Rally Champion won together with co-driver Jan Hloušek ahead of shooting stars Dominik Stříteský/Jiří Hovorka, who were competing in a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo carrying the ŠKODA Motorsport colours as well. It was Jan Kopecký's ninth victory at the Bohemia Rally, which took place around ŠKODA's hometown Mladá Boleslav.

The only competitor who could have spoiled the ŠKODA Motorsport party at Bohemia Rally, fourth round of the SONAX Czech Rally Championship 2021, was Ford driver Václav Pech. Right from the start, he was locked in a fierce battle with ŠKODA Motorsport's test driver Jan Kopecký. But on the sixth special stage, the hydraulic system of Pech's Ford failed. Kopecký took the lead, which was never in danger until the finish. "It is a very special moment for me, that I could achieve my ninth victory here. There is no better way to celebrate the 120th anniversary of ŠKODA's activities in motorsport," emphasized Jan Kopecký at the finish.

As a reward for good performances during the first three championship events, Dominik Stříteský drove Bohemia Rally with support from ŠKODA Motorsport. And the 21 years young talent delivered. Together with co-driver Jiří Hovorka he finished second with the ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo carrying the colours of the factory team. Jan Černý/Petr Černohorský of Louda Auto ŠKODA Racing Team in third place overall completed an all ŠKODA podium. Filip Mareš and co-driver Radovan Bucha, sharing an all-new limited production ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo Edition 120 from Laureta Auto ŠKODA Team, were initially holding second place. After a puncture during the eleventh stage they eventually finished fourth overall.

The third ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo in ŠKODA Motorsport colours was driven by 20 years old Marco Bulacia Wilkinson of Bolivia with Marcel Der Ohannesian of Argentina in the navigator's seat. The South American crew is currently third in the WRC2 overall standings of the FIA World Rally Championship and used the Bohemia Rally to improve its driving skills on tarmac. After setting third fastest time at the opening stage, they went off on the third stage, damaged the rear right wheel and could only continue after a roadside repair carried out by the crew. With brakes only on three wheels, they dropped to 12th position. After the ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo was properly repaired at service, Bulacia started a race to catch up. A string of fast stage times made him climb to fifth position at the finish.

"I have to thank Jan for his beautiful birthday present he gave to all of us to celebrate the 120th anniversary of ŠKODA's activities in motorsport. Again, he showed his speed and experience to win for the ninth time our home event. I am as well delighted by the strong performance of our young guns Dominik Stříteský and Marco Bulacia," said Michal Hrabánek, Director of ŠKODA Motorsport.



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Result Bohemia Rally (Czech Rally Championship 2021)

1. Kopecký/Hloušek (CZE/CZE), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, 1:27:15.1 hrs.
2. Střiteský/Hovorka (CZE/CZE), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +1:08.4 min.
3. Černý/Černohorský (CZE/CZE), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +1:21.4 min.
4. Mareš/Bucha, (CZE/CZE), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +1:29.7 min.
5. Bulacia/Der Ohannesian (BOL/ARG), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +1:56.8 min.
6. Cvrček/Prokorát, (CZE/CZE), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +2:53.1 min.

Number of the rally: 9

Among the top 10 of the final classification of Bohemia Rallye were nine crews competing with a ŠKODA FABIA rally car.

SONAX Czech Rally Championship 2021

Valašská Rally ValMez	27/03 -28/03/2021
Rallye Šumava Klatovy	08/05 - 09/05/2021
Agrotec Petronas Rally Hustopeče	18/06 – 19/06/2021
Bohemia Rally	10/07 – 11/07/2021
Barum Czech Rally Zlín	27/08 - 29/08/2021
Invelt Rally Pačejov	01/10 - 03/10/2021
Rallye Český Krumlov	<i>date to be announced</i>

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Media photos:



ŠKODA Motorsport at Bohemia Rally

For the ninth time, Jan Kopecký (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) – this time with the support of co-driver Jan Hloušek – won the Czech Championship Round Rally Bohemia

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



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ŠKODA Motorsport at Bohemia Rally

At the Bohemia Rally, fourth round of the SONAX Czech Rally Championship, Dominik Stříteský/Jiří Hovorka conquered an impressive second place with their factory-supported ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at Bohemia Rally

Jan Černý/Petr Černožorský of the Louda Auto ŠKODA Racing Team drove a faultless rally which brought them to third place for an all ŠKODA podium

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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 der 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 SUPER 2000 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 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 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 focusing on three priorities with the "NEXT LEVEL ŠKODA" program for the future: expanding the model portfolio in the direction of entry-level segments, opening up new markets for further growth in the volume segment, and making concrete progress in sustainability and diversity.
- › currently offers its customers ten passenger-car series: the CITIGO® iV, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ, KODIAQ and ENYAQ iV.
- › delivered more than one million vehicles to customers around the world in 2020.
- › is part of Volkswagen Group since 30 years. Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world. In association with the Group, ŠKODA AUTO independently develops and manufactures vehicles, as well as components such as engines and transmissions.
- › operates at three locations in the Czech Republic; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia and India mainly through Group partnerships as well as in Ukraine with a local partner.
- › employs approximately 42,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.