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Page 1 of 5



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Acropolis Rally Greece: Double WRC2 victory for ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews

- › In difficult conditions, Norwegian Andreas Mikkelsen and co-driver Elliott Edmondson from England win the category at the FIA World Rally Championship's round nine
- › Toksport WRT teammates Marco Bulacia/Marcelo Der Ohannesian (BOL/ARG) finish second in WRC2 and consolidate second position in points standings
- › In WRC3, ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews Kajetan Kajetanowicz/Maciej Szczepaniak (POL/POL) and Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock (GBR/GBR) finish on the podium
- › Seven ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews inside the top 10 of WRC3 at the "Rally of Gods"

Athens (GR), 12 September 2021 – What a debut! Andreas Mikkelsen and co-driver Elliott Edmondson finish on top of the podium on their very first rally together. The Norwegian-British pairing in the ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo won category WRC2 at EKO Acropolis Rally Greece (9-12 September 2021), ninth round of the FIA World Rally Championship 2021. Their Toksport WRT teammates Marco Bulacia/Marcelo Der Ohannesian (BOL/ARG) made it a 1-2 for ŠKODA in WRC2. ŠKODA privateers Kajetan Kajetanowicz/Maciej Szczepaniak (POL/POL) and Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock (GBR/GBR) rounded up the successful weekend for the Czech brand with positions two and three in WRC3.

The final leg of Acropolis Rally Greece again offered some extremely difficult road conditions. Heavy rains in the days before the start had caused the roads to deteriorate significantly. Nevertheless, the fight of the two Toksport WRT crews for victory in WRC2 continued until the last kilometres. After the first stage of the final leg on Sunday, Andreas Mikkelsen/Elliott Edmondson (NOR/GBR) in the #20 ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo had nudged teammates Marco Bulacia/Marcelo Der Ohannesian (BOL/ARG) from top spot in the category standings.

The Norwegian-British duo started into the final Powerstage with a 20.2 seconds lead. Bulacia did everything he could to claw back time. The 20 years old from Bolivia was faster than his experienced teammate, but not enough. „I am very pleased with our job this weekend. Today Andreas was faster, but we had a very good pace and we are happy to bring the ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo back home without problems," Bulacia said. With this win, Mikkelsen extends his overall lead in the WRC2 overall drivers' standings. Also, Toksport WRT increased the gap to the pursuers in the teams' standings. „It's looking good for the championship. A great result for the team. The car was perfect the whole weekend," Mikkelsen concluded.

In WRC3, Kajetan Kajetanowicz/Maciej Szczepaniak from Poland and Brits Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock, both crews in ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, tried to chase down overnight leaders Yohan Rossel/Alexandre Coria. But the two Frenchman hung on to first of the category. In the end, Kajetanowicz/Szczepaniak had to be content with second position, 14.5 seconds ahead of the 2019 FIA European Rally Champions from England. They were followed by Finnish duo Emil Lindholm/Reeta Hämäläinen in another ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo from Toksport WRT. With this result Kajetan Kajetanowicz consolidated his runner-up position in the WRC3 overall standings. In total, seven ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews are listed inside the top 10 in WRC3.

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Page 2 of 5

Final Result Acropolis Rally Greece (WRC2)

1. **Mikkelsen/Edmondson (NOR/GBR), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +3:37:27.1 hrs.**
2. **Bulacia/Der Ohannesian (BOL/ARG), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +16.7 sec.**
3. Gryazin/Aleksandrov (RAF/RAF), Ford Fiesta Rally2, +4:45.0 min.
4. **Linnamäe/Morgan (EST/GB), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +6:02.0 min.**
5. Prokop/Michal (CZE/CZE), Ford Fiesta Rally2 Mk2, +9:02.7 min.
6. Johnston/Kihurani (USA/USA), Citroën C3 Rally2, +9:27.6 min.

Top 3 WRC2 after 9 of 12 rallies

1. **Andreas Mikkelsen (NOR), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, 126 points**
2. **Marco Bulacia (BOL), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, 104 points**
3. Mads Østberg (NOR), Citroën C3 Rally2, 96 points

Final Result Acropolis Rally Greece (WRC3)

1. Rossel/Coria (FRA/FRA), Citroën C3 Rally2, +3:39:15.4 hrs.
2. **Kajetanowicz/Szczepaniak (POL/POL), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +32.8 sec.**
3. **Ingram/Whittock (GBR/GBR), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +58.9 sec.**
4. **Lindholm/Korhonen (FIN/FIN), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +3:04.8 min.**
5. **Kehagias/Tsaousoglou (GRC/GRC), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +16:16.1 min.**
6. Panagiotis/Nikolopoulos (GRC/GRC), Citroën C3 Rally2, +16:23.9 min.

Top 3 WRC3 after 9 of 12 rallies

1. Yohan Rossel (FRA), Citroën C3 Rally2, 155 points
2. **Kajetan Kajetanowicz (POL), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, 105 points**
3. Nicolas Ciamin (FRA), Citroën C3 Rally2, 57 points

Number of the day: 1-2 and 1

After nine of the 2021 FIA World Rally Championship's rallies, ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo drivers hold positions one and two in the WRC2 overall classification. Norwegian Andreas Mikkelsen leads Toksport WRT teammate Marco Bulacia from Bolivia by 22 points. Toksport WRT also leads the WRC2 Teams' standings.

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Page 3 of 5



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2021 FIA World Rally Championship

Rallye Monte-Carlo	21 – 24 January
Arctic Rally Finland powered by CapitalBox	26 – 28 February
Rally Croatia	22 – 25 April
Vodafone Rally Portugal	20 – 23 May
Rally Italia Sardegna	3 – 6 June
Safari Rally Kenya	24 – 27 June
Rally Estonia	15 – 18 July
Renties Ypres Rally Belgium	13 – 15 August
EKO Acropolis Rally Greece	9 – 12 September
Rally Finland	30 September – 3 October
RallyRACC Rally de España	14 – 17 October

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ŠKODA Motorsport at Acropolis Rally Greece

This video recaps the action in WRC2 and WRC3 with ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo crews fighting for victory in both categories

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at Acropolis Rally Greece

Driving a ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, Andreas Mikkelsen (NOR) and new co-driver Elliott Edmondson (GBR) won WRC2, thus enabling Mikkelsen to extend his lead in the WRC2 points standings

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



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Page 4 of 5



ŠKODA Motorsport at Acropolis Rally Greece

Marco Bulacia from Bolivia and Argentinean co-driver Marcelo Der Ohannesian (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) came second in WRC2

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at Acropolis Rally Greece

Andreas Mikkelsen/Elliott Edmondson (NOR/GBR) won WRC2 at their first rally together in the Toksport WRT ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at Acropolis Rally Greece

Kajetan Kajetanowicz and co-driver Maciej Szczepaniak from Poland (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) finished second in WRC3

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA Motorsport at Acropolis Rally Greece

Brits Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) made it to the WRC3 podium as third of the category

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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 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.

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

Page 5 of 5

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.

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- › 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.