

# ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

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## New rally vehicle named ŠKODA FABIA RS Rally2

- › Successor to the most successful rally vehicle in its category will be unveiled on 14 June
- › RS evokes legendary models and establishes a link to the sportiest production vehicles
- › ŠKODA Motorsport delivered over 450 units of the predecessor model to customer teams

Mladá Boleslav, 13 June 2022 – ŠKODA Motorsport is assigning the legendary RS letter combination to its latest rally vehicle based on the fourth-generation FABIA. In this way, the ŠKODA FABIA RS Rally2 evokes successful predecessors such as the ŠKODA 130 RS while establishing a link to the sporty production vehicles that make up the Czech manufacturer's RS family. The successor to the most successful rally vehicle in its category will be unveiled in Mladá Boleslav on 14 June at 19:00.

The ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo is the most successful rally car in its category. It has notched up almost 1,700 victories, including four triumphs at the legendary Rallye Monte Carlo, and earned a total of six world championship titles. ŠKODA Motorsport has delivered more than 450 units to its customer teams, giving it a global market share of one third in the Rally2 category. The successor, based on the fourth-generation FABIA and set to continue this unique success story, will be presented by ŠKODA in Mladá Boleslav on 14 June at 19:00.

The ŠKODA FABIA RS Rally2 is the first rally variant of the FABIA to feature the legendary RS designation in its name. These two letters have been synonymous with success on rally tracks and racing circuits around the world for 48 years. It was 1974 when ŠKODA introduced the designation RS, which stands for "Rally Sport", and used it for its rally prototypes, the ŠKODA 180 RS and 200 RS. The following year marked the debut of the legendary ŠKODA 130 RS, which garnered numerous successes on international rally tracks and circuits until 1983. In 1977 the ŠKODA 130 RS achieved a one-two finish in its class at the legendary "Monte" and also made the top of the podium at the Acropolis Rally. On the race track, this was followed by an overall win at the 1981 European Touring Car Championship.

In addition, the new rally car's name establishes a link to the ŠKODA RS family, which currently comprises the OCTAVIA RS, the KODIAQ RS and the ENYAQ COUPÉ RS iV. For over two decades now ŠKODA has been using the RS designation to identify its sportiest production models, starting in 2000 with the first OCTAVIA RS. Follow-ups included two RS variants of the ŠKODA FABIA. In 2003, the first FABIA RS, based on the small car's first generation, doubled as the homologation model for the FABIA WRC rally car presented at the same time. 2010 saw the arrival of another RS variant; based on the second-generation FABIA, it was also offered in COMBI estate format.

The world premiere in Mladá Boleslav will start on June 14 at 19:00 CET and will be broadcast live across the globe via the [ŠKODA Motorsport website](#).

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### Video: ŠKODA FABIA RS Rally2

ŠKODA Motorsport is assigning the legendary RS letter combination to its latest rally vehicle based on the fourth-generation FABIA

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



### ŠKODA FABIA RS Rally2

The new rally car's name establishes a link to the ŠKODA RS family, which currently comprises the OCTAVIA RS, the KODIAQ RS and the ENYAQ COUPÉ RS iV

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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.

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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## 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.

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