



Media information

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BFGoodrich® tires claim 17th Dakar win with Stéphane Peterhansel and Edouard Boulanger

The fiercely-fought 2021 Dakar, which took place in Saudi Arabia from January 3 to January 15 in compliance with strict sanitary measures necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic, saw Stéphane Peterhansel – aka Monsieur Dakar – take the top prize at the wheel of his JCW Team-tended two-wheel drive, diesel-powered X-Raid Mini buggy. The Frenchman's blend of speed, consistency and control proved decisive over the particularly fast, rough terrain visited by this year's 12-stage, 4,500-kilometre marathon which put the crews, their cars and their tires to a truly punishing test.

"The BFGoodrich All Terrain T/A KDR2+ used for the 2021 Dakar packs the very best rally tire technology and is the result of an ongoing development process founded on feedback collected on events," said **Sandrine Combeaux** (Manager, BFGoodrich Europe).

"The 2021 Dakar, the second to be held in the Middle East, featured extremely fast stages that were rougher than those encountered in South America. As the data from this year's highly exacting event indicates, the big-wheeled buggies had the edge in terms of structural strength, whereas the 4x4 vehicles – which were equipped with smaller wheels - were more prone to issues.

"In addition to the need for precise navigational skills, and in keeping with the tradition of African-style rallies, driving style and careful mechanical sympathy stood out as important keys to success, as illustrated by Stéphane Peterhansel's winning performance."

BFGoodrich experts were on-hand to support its partners from start to finish and assist them with their tire, set-up and tire pressure choices. Over the 12 legs, the BFGoodrich® Service Center fitted and removed some 3,800 tires.

Events like the Dakar and North American-style 'bajas' have contributed significantly to the outstanding ability of BFGoodrich's all-terrain tires and to the unique expertise the brand has built up in the course of its 150 year history. It uses motorsport as a life-size laboratory to put its tires through their paces in the most extreme conditions imaginable with the aim of gaining the invaluable knowhow that enables the performance of its competition tires to be carried over to commercially-available BFGoodrich® tires for four-wheel drive vehicles.

The 2021 Dakar was also marked by the performance and resilience of the recently-launched BFGoodrich Mud Terrain KM3 SSV/UTV. The event's Light Vehicle category (UTV/SSV) saw BFGoodrich runner Cristina Gutierrez from Spain post the class's fastest time on the first day, thereby becoming the first lady competitor to claim a Dakar stage since 2005. Meanwhile, 18-year old Seth Quintero – who, like Cristina Gutierrez, was defending the colors of Red Bull Junior Team OT3 – was the youngest competitor ever to contest the Dakar.

About BFGoodrich® tires

BFGoodrich develops and manufactures tires for enthusiasts who are looking for driving enjoyment on practically every type of terrain. Thanks to the experience it has built up in the course of the 45 years it has competed in motorsport, BFGoodrich has developed a comprehensive range of sports tires, tailored to meet the needs of all types of driver, whether for circuit use at the wheel of ultra-high-performance cars, on ordinary roads or off-road. For further information about BFGoodrich tires, visit www.BFGoodrich.com.

