



# FIS NEWSFLASH

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Fédération Internationale de Ski      International Ski Federation  
Internationaler Ski Verband

## Venue preparation on San Sicario Fraiteve progressing on schedule

The venue of San Sicario Fraiteve is getting ready to host the women's downhill, super g and combined races at next year's Olympic Winter Games in Turin (ITA). The run which was already tested during the 2005 FIS Alpine World Cup, starts from the highest point of Mount Fraiteve, passes along the slope of the region called 'Soleil Boeuf' and then ends near the town of San Sicario.

Following the request of a number of the leading skiers after last year's first competitions on the slope, a number of modifications have now been carried out to try to add more interesting and challenging features to the terrain.

The maximum capacity of the venue will be over 6,000 spectators: 5,650 comfortably seated at the arrival area and 500 in the standing zone. Fans will be able to get to the venue by bus from Oulx or by cable car from Cesana, having the chance to take in a magnificent view. The site will also include a tented area of 5,400 m<sup>2</sup> and 1,100 m<sup>2</sup> of containers, which will be set up as of September. The work on the venue is scheduled for completion by the end of November, and the venue will open on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2006, with operations beginning the following day.

## Mt. Buller (AUS) opens 2005/2006 FIS World Cup season

After a long summer, Freestyle skiing enthusiasts are looking forward to the first FIS World Cup competition of the 2005/2006 season in the traditional curtain raiser at Mt. Buller (AUS) on 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> September with Men

and Ladies set to display their skills at two Aerials competitions.

To make the occasion even more spectacular, this will be the tenth season that the Mt Buller Alpine Resort which is located 250km north east of Melbourne and rises to an altitude of 1804 metres, will host the FIS Freestyle World Cup. 29 athletes from 11 nations ((ARG, AUT, BLR, CAN, CHN, FRA, JPN, SUI, UKR, USA) will participate in the Men's competitions while the Ladies' events will see 27 athletes from 8 countries (AUS, BLR, CAN, CHN, JPN, SUI, UKR, USA) compete against each other.

To facilitate the responsibilities of the officials, a completely new Judges' Stand was recently built at the Freestyle aerials site at Mt Buller. The tower holds offices, a clubhouse and room for accommodation. The snow conditions in Australia have recently improved dramatically so there's plenty of optimism that Mt. Buller may offer perfect skiing conditions in time for the competitions. You may find the program for the event here: [http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/604/1228.html?event\\_id=17874&cal\\_suchsector=FS](http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/604/1228.html?event_id=17874&cal_suchsector=FS)

## European floods cut off access to ski resorts

Access to a number of well-known European ski resorts was cut off last week when the worst floods since 1999 left a trail of death and destruction across parts of Central Europe.

In Germany, flooding was worst near the popular alpine ski resort of Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Bavaria, where 105 litres per cubic metre of rain caused dams around the Loisach and Iller rivers to burst, washing away roads and suspending train services.

Also Oberstdorf was isolated by the floods and organizers were forced to cancel the FIS Nordic Combined Summer Grand Prix opener on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August. In Central Switzerland, water levels remained high. A number of towns still were half-submerged in water and the town of Engelberg which will host two FIS Ski Jumping competitions in December was still isolated from the rest of Switzerland after its only road out was washed away by a landslide on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

The Austrian alpine regions were too badly affected by the torrential rain and many resorts fear that the cleaning-up operation will still not be complete for the winter ski season.

Dear Friends of FIS,

Should you have any feedback, comments, you are most welcome to send them to me at: [frandsen@fis.ch](mailto:frandsen@fis.ch). "FIS Newsflash" will not only be distributed via e-mail but also be published in the News section of the FIS Website.

Best regards

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