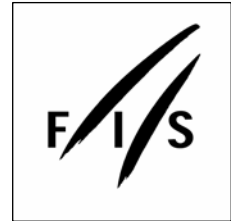




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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIS MEDIA INFO

FIS TOUR DE SKI 2006-2007 confirmed

Oberhofen, 24th March, 2006/ -- Following a meeting by the FIS Finance Commission, the FIS TOUR DE SKI 2006-2007 has now been confirmed to take place as part of the Viessmann FIS World Cup Cross-Country from 29th December, 2006, to 7th January, 2007, two months before the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Sapporo, Japan.

Set to become an annual highlight within the Viessmann FIS World Cup Cross-Country, the FIS TOUR DE SKI will include eight international top sport events in ten days and be the first-ever FIS Cross-Country event that takes place at five venues in three countries.

The Tour will begin with two Stages in Nove Mesto (CZE), move to Munich (GER) for a city sprint on New Year's Eve before stopping in Oberstdorf (GER) for another two Stages. The last three Stages of the first FIS Tour de Ski will take place in Italy. First a sprint in Asiago followed by a mass start race in Val di Fiemme and as a culmination, a four-kilometer long Final Climb on the Alpe Cermis on top of which the Tour winners will be crowned on January 7th, 2007.

Please see below for key details of the event.

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FIS TOUR DE SKI 2006-2007

I. Goals of the FIS TOUR DE SKI:

- Introduction of a unique winter sport event to crown the season's best overall Cross-Country skier
- Enhancement of the image of the Viessmann FIS World Cup Cross-Country
- Increased interest in the sport of Cross-Country Skiing in general and among the media
- Provision of an effective marketing and communications platform for FIS Cross-Country sponsors

II. Highlights of the FIS TOUR DE SKI:

- The FIS TOUR DE SKI as an annual highlight within the Viessmann FIS World Cup Cross-Country
- The first-ever FIS Cross-Country event that takes place in three countries and five venues
- Eight international top sport events in ten days

III. Tour Schedule:

Stage # and Date	Race	Distance	Technique	Start	Start Times (TBC)	Location
• Friday, December 29, 2006	Prologue	3K W 4.5K M	Classic	Individual	14:00-16:00 CET	Nove Mesto, CZE
• Saturday, December 30, 2006	Pursuit*	10K W 15K M	Free	Handicap start	11:30 CET W 13:00 CET M	Nove Mesto, CZE
• Sunday, December 31, 2006	Sprint	1K W 1.2K M	Free	Mass	15:30 -17:00 CET (Finals)	München, GER
• Tuesday, January 2, 2007	Pursuit	5+5K W 10+10K M	Classic/Free	Mass	11:30 CET W 13:00 CET M	Oberstdorf, GER
• Wednesday, January 3, 2007	Distance	10K W 15K M	Classic	Individual	10:30 CET W 12:00 CET M	Oberstdorf, GER
• Friday, January 5, 2007	Sprint	1K W 1.2K M	Free	Mass	14:00-16:00 CET (Finals)	Asiago, ITA
• Saturday, January 6, 2007	Distance	15K W 30K M	Classic	Mass	11:30 CET W 14:30 CET M	Val di Fiemme, ITA
• Sunday, January 7, 2007	Pursuit* (Final Climb on Alpe Cermis)	10K W 15K M	Free	Handicap start	14:30 CET W 15:30 CET M	Val di Fiemme, ITA
TOTAL		50K W 101.9K M	5xFree, 4xClassic	2 x Individual, 6 x Mass		

* The race will start in the order of the Tour de Ski ranking. That means that the leader of the Tour de Ski starts first, the second ranked athlete starts next, etc. The starting intervals are based on the differences between the competitors' total times in the overall Tour de Ski standings.

Note: The distance/technique/start format details of the Tour Stages are subject to confirmation by the FIS Cross-Country Committee in its meeting in Vilamoura (POR) in May 2006. Start times provided here are preliminary and may change depending on scheduling concerns.

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IV. Provisional FIS World Cup Schedule for 29th December, 2006 – January 7th, 2007:

Date	AUDI Alpine Women	AUDI Alpine Men	RUHRGAS Ski-Jumping	VIESSMANN Cross-Country Women	VIESSMANN Cross-Country Men	WARSTEINER Nordic Combined	NOKIA Snowboard	Freestyle
Fri. 29.12.2006	Semmering AUT SL	Bormio ITA DH	Oberstdorf GER HS 137	Nove Mesto CZE Prolog 3K C	Nove Meste CZE Prolog 4.5K C			
Sat. 30.12.2006				Nove Mesto CZE 10K F MS	Nove Mesto CZE 15K F MS	Oberhof GER HS 140 15 km Gund		
Sun. 31.12.2006			Garmisch Part. GER Quali	Munich GER Sprint F	Munich GER Sprint F			
Mon. 01.01.2007			Garmisch Part. GER HS 125					
Tue. 02.01.2007				Oberstdorf GER 5+5K P	Oberstdorf GER 10+10K P			
Wed. 03.01.2007			Innsbruck AUT Quali	Oberstdorf AUT 10K C	Oberstdorf GER 15K C	Ruhpolding GER HS 128 7,5 km Spr.		
Thu. 04.01.2007	Zagreb CRO SL		Innsbruck AUT HS 130					AUT TBC
Fri. 05.01.2007			Bischofshofen AUT Quali	Asiago ITA Sprint F	Asiago ITA Sprint F			
Sat. 06.01.2007	Maribor SLO GS	Adelboden SUI GS	Bischofshofen AUT HS 140	Val di Fiemme ITA 15K C MS	Val di Fiemme ITA 30K C MS	Schonach GER HS 96 15 km Gund	Bad Gastein AUT TBC	Tremblant CAN MO
Sun. 07.01.2007	Maribor SLO SL	Adelboden SUI SL		Val di Fiemme ITA 10K F MS Final Climb	Val di Fiemme ITA 15K F MS Final Climb		Bad Gastein AUT TBC	Tremblant CAN AE

There will be internal FIS coordination of the starting times once the schedules for all FIS disciplines for the season 2006-2007 have been confirmed in May 2006.

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V. FIS TOUR DE SKI Rules:

- Only entry for all FIS TOUR DE SKI Stages is possible. Abandonment in one race will lead to exclusion from the rest of the FIS TOUR DE SKI.
- The overall results for FIS TOUR DE SKI will be based on the overall time score in the eight Tour Stages. Sprint competitions will count as well.
- There will be a bonus system for the top 30 in the sprint races. The sprint bonus seconds for the overall Tour ranking are as listed below. Bonus seconds are subtracted from the competitor's actual race time before being added into the overall time score.

1 st place = 50 seconds	16 th place = 15 seconds
2 nd place = 40 seconds	17 th place = 14 seconds
3 rd place = 30 seconds	18 th place = 13 seconds
4 th place = 28 seconds	19 th place = 12 seconds
5 th place = 26 seconds	20 th place = 11 seconds
6 th place = 25 seconds	21 st place = 10 seconds
7 th place = 24 seconds	22 nd place = 9 seconds
8 th place = 23 seconds	23 rd place = 8 seconds
9 th place = 22 seconds	24 th place = 7 seconds
10 th place = 21 seconds	25 th place = 6 seconds
11 th place = 20 seconds	26 th place = 5 seconds
12 th place = 19 seconds	27 th place = 4 seconds
13 th place = 18 seconds	28 th place = 3 seconds
14 th place = 17 seconds	29 th place = 2 seconds
15 th place = 16 seconds	30 th place = 1 second

- There will also be bonus seconds for intermediate points in mass start competitions during the FIS TOUR DE SKI. Bonus seconds will be 15, 10 and 5 seconds for the first three athletes at a designated intermediate point. In mass starts up to 10 km for women and 15 km for men, there will be one bonus intermediate point. If the mass start will be 15 km and more for women, and 30 km and more for men, there will be two bonus intermediate points. In mass start competitions, the top three of the Stage will also get bonus seconds (15, 10 and 5 seconds).
- The FIS TOUR DE SKI Sprint Ranking will be calculated on the basis of the bonus seconds as detailed above. The winner of the Tour Sprint Ranking will be the athlete (male & female) who has collected the most bonus seconds by the end of the FIS TOUR DE SKI.

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VI. FIS World Cup Points for the FIS TOUR DE SKI:

- FIS World Cup points will only be awarded after the last Stage according to the final FIS TOUR DE SKI standings. The factor will be 4,, i.e. the Tour winner will receive 400 points (4 x 100 points in the regular FIS World Cup Cross-Country races), as follows:

1. = 400 pts	11. = 96 pts	21. = 40 pts
2. = 320	12. = 88	22. = 36
3. = 240	13. = 80	23. = 32
4. = 200	14. = 72	24. = 28
5. = 180	15. = 64	25. = 24
6. = 160	16. = 60	26. = 20
7. = 144	17. = 56	27. = 16
8. = 128	18. = 52	28. = 12
9. = 116	19. = 48	29. = 8
10. = 104	20. = 44	30. = 4

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VII. FIS TOUR DE SKI Prize Money:

Place	Overall Prize Money (CHF)
1 st	150'000
2 nd	100'000
3 rd	50'000
4 th	35'000
5 th	25'000
6 th	15'000
7 th	10'000
8 th	7'500
9 th	5'000
10 th	2'500
Total	400'000 for each gender
TOUR Total	800'000

Place	Sprint Ranking Prize Money (CHF)
1 st	10'000
2 nd	5'000
3 rd	2'500
4 th	1'500
5 th	1'000
Total	20'000 for each gender
TOUR Total	40'000

Place	Daily Prize Money (CHF)
1 st	5'000
2 nd	3'000
3 rd	2'000
Daily Total	10'000 for each gender
TOUR Total	160'000

GRAND TOTAL	CHF 1'000'000
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FIS TOUR DE SKI 2006-2007

VIII. Tour Logistics - estimated traveling times and distances:

Departure	Arrival	Distance	Estimated Travel Time
Nove Mesto na Morave (CZE)	Munich (GER)	550 km	6 hours
Munich (GER)	Oberstdorf (GER)	180 km	2 hours
Oberstdorf (GER)	Asiago (ITA)	420 km	5.5 hours
Asiago (ITA)	Val di Fiemme (ITA)	150 km	2.5 hours
TOTAL		1300 km	16 hours

Planned Logistical Highlights – pending confirmation:

- One entry for the entire Tour, no need to register athletes separately for daily Stages
- Team-specific service cabins on large trucks enabling convenient departure and arrival based on teams' schedule and needs
- Single Tour accreditation card and one parking sticker for the entire event
- Coordinated accommodation plan for each Tour team from beginning to end