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## FIS COMPETITION FACTS

### e.on Ruhrgas FIS World Cup Ski Jumping

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**Janne Happonen wins in Kuopio**                      March, 3rd 2008/hn

Local Janne Happonen won the rescheduled e.on Ruhrgas FIS World Cup Ski Jumping competition from Lahti (FIN) in Kuopio (FIN) today. Happonen received 142.6 points for a 134.5 meter jump. On the second place finished Gregor Schlierenzauer from Austria (137.6 points / 132 meters) ahead of Anders Jacobsen from Norway ( 136.6 points / 132 meters)

The 1<sup>st</sup> round had to be cancelled and restarted

Here is what Pekka Hyvärinen, chief of the competition told about the restart after the competition

“First we thought that the competition will be jumped straight through but the wind got harder and harder and the direction of the wind changed as well from back to the front. That made it impossible to provide equal circumstances for all jumpers”.

When the jury made its solution there were less than ten jumpers who hadn't jump on the first round. The last jump on cancelled round was Anders Jacobsen's 133,5-meter-long jump. Jacobsen's jump was so long that he didn't manage to do landing properly and he had to take the jump down from very high. “That was the last sign for jury”, admitted

Hyvärinen. Coaches don't make decisions about the place of the starting gates and there would have been two different opinions. We didn't need to hear voting and shouting”, told Hyvärinen.

Athletes Statements:

**Janne Happonen (FIN)** “I was of course disappointed first but then I just tried to focus on the second jump”, told Happonen his opinion to the decision of jury. (Happonen was already in the lead when the first round was cancelled and restarted later)

“I'll try to jump tomorrow as good as today”.

**Gregor Schlierenzauer (AUT) and Anders Jacobsen (NOR)** were both satisfied with their places on podium.

“Two rounds are always better than just one” they both told in the press conference.

Both of them understood the decision of jury better than Finnish ski jumpers who thought it wasn't the right solution. “There was no sense of that solution. Happonen jumped so good jumps today. Luckily the best one was on the restarted round” said Janne Ahonen who was absolutely happy for the other Janne's victory. “Janne's victory wasn't a surprise, he jumped absolutely great” said Ahonen

#### **Pictures:**

Please note that high quality action and podium pictures from today's competitions are available for purchase through the Internet portal offered by Nordic Focus, FIS Partner for photos from the Nordic Disciplines, at [www.nordicfocus.com](http://www.nordicfocus.com)

All results in detail can be found on <http://www.fis-ski.com/>

Kind regards

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