

## The Rally Bohemia started off festively

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### **The ceremonial start of the 39<sup>th</sup> Rally Bohemia has taken place in front of spectators, which had arrived to greet the rally stars of present and historic time.**

Sunny weather, colourful cars and loud music. That was the background of the ceremonial start of the 39<sup>th</sup> Rally Bohemia in the centre of Mladá Boleslav tonight. With number one the Finnish crew Juho Hänninen – Mikko Markkula drove over the starting ramp in Škoda Fabia S2000. The two-time winners of this rally bowed their heads to the crowd on Old Town's Square in Mladá Boleslav. Unfortunately as a result after the car crash in shakedown the crew Mads Ostberg – Jonas Andersson in Ford Fiesta RRC belonging among the favourites of the competition didn't start. Luckily enough the Ostberg's injury turned out to be only minor and at the time of the ceremonial start Mads appeared in person among spectators.

Big applause was given to all crews starting in the terms of the FIA European Rally Cup – Central as well as the Mediasport International Rally Championship of the Czech Republic, and crews with historical cars in the terms of the Historic Show. The first crew from this group driving over the starting ramp and receiving wild applause was the Scottish Champion Jimmy McRae in Opel Kadett C-GT/E 16V followed by German Rally Champion Harald Demuth in Audi 80 Quattro.

The ceremonial start continues further by the concert of the singer Olga Lounová and the music band SEVEN. There will be more competitive cars driving over the ramp after this. The first car to start into the first special stage Chloudov I will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 8:39 in the morning.

General partner of the Rally Bohemia is the Škoda Auto automobile factory, which provides a representative background and also seeds into the competition factory's crews driving in Škoda Fabia S2000 cars.

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