

News release

29.11.14

## **Famous five for fan's favourite... golden boots Solberg**

**World Rallycross Champion Petter Solberg ended a history-making season in the perfect style as he scored his fifth win of the year in San Luis, Argentina today.**

Solberg, the first man ever to lift both the World Rally Championship and World RX titles, dominated the 12<sup>th</sup> and final round of this year's series. After winning two of the four heats, nobody could touch the PSRX team-leader in the knock-out stages as the Norwegian superstar steamrolled the opposition once again.

Petter said: "To finish the season as we started it is absolutely unbelievable! We couldn't have hoped for this before the race. We did a lot of work on the car before Argentina. Forty per cent of the development we are doing for next season was on the car here and we have shown just how good it is. And just how hard everybody in the PSRX team has worked.

"I'm always happy on the gravel, but with the changes we'd made to the car for this event, we were in a different league on the loose in San Luis. It was sensational! Now we have to go home and work on the other 60 per cent, but this has been an amazing start to the development programme.

"For the team, this was the most important weekend. We won the title in Italy in September and already celebrated that – we might have another small celebration or two – but what we did here with victory in Argentina was give the guys some fuel in their tank for the long winter of work ahead. Everybody in a PSRX shirt won this race today, not just me.

"Like I said, we came here with a lot of new developments on the car and we did have some issues in practice, but the changes we made worked immediately. The rain was incredible in the third heat and I made a mistake, which cost me some time. But that was really the only thing which didn't go to plan this week.

"The key to the team's success this season has come through a change in our approach. We have worked so, so hard on a strategic approach. We have come to every race knowing what we want to achieve from every lap of every race; we've analysed absolutely everything, including the circuits, the corners, the competition, the cars, everything. We made ourselves really, really smart this season and that's something I am so proud of in the whole team.

"And finally, maybe you didn't notice, but my boots changed colour for this race. OMP was very kind and sent me some golden boots for the race. I remember when Tommi Makinen got his golden boots for his final World Rally Championship event – I was his team-mate at Subaru – in 2003. That was a special moment for my friend and this was the same for me.

“I wore them and won. Tonight I’ll wear them and dance.”

Petter’s PSRX team-mate Manfred Stohl made a strong start to his World RX career, making the semi-final in the second Citroen DS3 Supercar.

Just before we go, it’s time for a word from Mrs S. Pernilla said: “It’s just been the most fantastic season. And winning here means so much to Petter. When he came here to compete in the rally, he loved it, loved the country and loved the people and this result has just made that stronger. What a way to finish the season. I can’t believe it – like Petter said, I’m so proud of everybody in the team. We all worked so hard to make this happen and it’s all worth it!”

**One thing we liked about San Luis:**

Are you getting bored with us saying this? WINNING!

**One thing we didn’t like about San Luis:**

Absolutely nothing. Or maybe the rain today... Actually forget that, rain’s not going to dampen our parade!

**Final result:**

<b>1 Petter Solberg</b>	<b>3m29.598s</b>
2 Reinis Nitiss	3m34.481s
3 Kevin Eriksson	3m38.287s
4 Timmy Hansen	3m39.739s
5 Toomas Heikkinen	3m41.629s
6 Andreas Bakkerud	3m48.554s

**Championship positions:**

<b>1 Petter Solberg</b>	<b>282pts</b>
2 Toomas Heikkinen	221pts
3 Reinis Nitiss	210pts
4 Timmy Hansen	199pts
5 Andreas Bakkerud	193pts
6 Anton Marklund	173pts

**Next time out**

Watch this space...

**But in the meantime, if you want to know more about the FIA World Rally Champion:**

PSRX media:

Per-Espen Lochen

[per-espen@pettersolberg.no](mailto:per-espen@pettersolberg.no)

+46 76 110 7 110

+47 952 43 245

FIA World RX media:

[rxmedia@imgworld.com](mailto:rxmedia@imgworld.com)

[rachel.cavers@mpacreative.com](mailto:rachel.cavers@mpacreative.com)

+44 1372 414120  
+44 7500 877304

pettersolberg.com  
rallycrossrx.com

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@RallycrossRX

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