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News release

Stuart delighted to be back on the international stage again

Glasgow's Stuart Loudon will return to international competition next week, when he takes part in one of France's most challenging rallies.

Stuart will co-drive rising Swedish star Mattias Adielsson at the Rallye du Var on the switchback mountain roads inland from the Cote d'Azur.

The pair will compete in a cutting-edge Citroën C3 R5, one of the world's fastest and newest rally cars.

"Mattias is one of the sport's brightest prospects," said Stuart. "He came over to Britain a couple of years ago and demonstrated great speed and ability on his first time competing on the roads here. Since then he's matured and developed as a driver, so to be starting to work with him now is great news for me.

"I'm delighted to be competing again, it's been a while since Rally Germany in the summer and this is another great move towards my ambition of competing professionally. It's really interesting to work with a new driver like Mattias.

"I'm also delighted to be going to a rally I've never done before and doubly delighted to be doing it in a car as special as the Citroën C3 R5.

"Anybody who knows about rallying knows about Citroën's pedigree in the sport. Along with Sébastien Loeb, Citroën won 17 world titles in nine years. To be in a car built by that same team is fantastic."

Stuart will join Mattias and the whole Saintéloc Racing team for a pre-event test in the days before the 12-stage November 23-25 event.

"The test is an opportunity for Mattias and I to work together for the first time before the actual rally," said Stuart. "It's also an opportunity for me to get a look at how his pacenotes (the driver's description of the road ahead) work before we make notes on the reconnaissance of the route just before the start."

While Stuart has competed all around the world, Rallye du Var is not one of the 103 events he has started in his career.

"It's always nice to go to a new event," said Stuart, "but at the same time you are going in cold with no experience. I'll do plenty of work looking at onboard videos of this rally in previous years and do my research into the event to make sure I'm as prepared as I can be before I get to the test."

Based out of the city of Sainte-Maxime on France's south coast, Rallye du Var uses Provence and Alpes terrain similar to the world-famous Rallye Monte-Carlo.

"People say this event's like an autumn Monte Carlo," said Stuart. "Let's see. It's the start of a new adventure and that's always an exciting thing."

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Stuart Loudon is a semi-professional co-driver who has started 103 rallies, 20 of which are rounds of the World Rally Championship and one of which was with an Ashes-winning English cricketer. He makes biscuits in the family business when he's not working towards his dream of becoming a factory co-driver in the WRC.

Stuart Loudon and Words PR work their socks off to make sure every last dot and detail of the document is 100 per cent accurate – but we can't be responsible for any changes to the itinerary or stage distances.