Press release of the 6th July 2008

14th Suedtirol Dolomiti Superbike in Niederdorf/Villabassa (Suedtirol/Alto Adige- Italy)

WC Bronze Winner Urs Huber and Elena Giacomuzzi win over 120 km

After having won the bronze medal at the UCI Marathon WCH on Saturday in Niederdorf/Villabassa, today the Swiss Urs Huber won the 14th Suedtirol Dolomiti Superbike in Hochpustertal/Alta Pusteria as well. The Swiss needed 4:57.25 hours for the 120 km of length and the 3,822 m of vertical drop. Klaus Fontana from Olang/Valdaora (Suedtirol/Alto Adige- Italy) was ranked second by surprise with a delay of 7.57 minutes. Marzio Dehò from the Italian National Team arrived 9.33 minutes behind Huber and was ranked third. At the women's Elena Giacomuzzi from Fleimstal/Val di Fiemme (Trentino/Italy) won with a time of 6:02.49 hours before Anita Steiner from Switzerland and German Sonja Fink with a delay of 11.52 and 53.43 minutes respectively.

Today the weather was not as nice as at yesterday's WCH and after the arrival of the athletes there also were some raindrops. However this did not influence the good mood and the nice athmosphere in Hochpustertal/Alta Pusteria in the slightest and many top athletes were present. Also the new Marathon World Champion Roel Paulissen took part at the race. The Belgian, who now lives in Antholz/Anterselva (Suedtirol/Alto Adige –Italy) with his partner, had been partying until dawn in an inn in Niederdorf/Villabassa just the night before. As on the previous day he had been injured at the finish of the race he gave up already in Toblach and rode back to Niederdorf/Villabassa on the main road.

Quotes:

Urs Huber (1st): After yesterday's big success, it was wonderful to take part at this race today. On the way there was again an amazing athmosphere and it is really good fun to race here. Next weekend I will participate at the Swiss Bike Masters and then I will take part at the Swiss Championships. Today I tried to get away from the others several times and I found it quite difficult. On the first ascent to the "Plätzwiese" I still showed restraint and the top group was still quite big. Then I caught up with Marzio Dehò in Sexten/Sesto. He had got away on the descent from the "Plätzwiese" together with Johannes Schweiggl. During the last five kilometres I had to mobilize my last power reserves.

Klaus Fontana (2nd): I again wanted to ride the long distance this year. On the ascent to the "Haunold" I caught up with Marzio Dehò and then I constantly rode with my own rhythm. Even though I work part-time, in the last years I have always been able to do my training sessions on a regular basis. I also work as the trainer of the junior racers of Suedtirol/Alro Adige. My next goals are the Italian Championships in Grotte di Castro and then I would like to defend the Master Italian Championships title that I won in Odolo last year.

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Marzio Dehò (3rd): As yesterday I had to give up, today I wanted to give it another try. The stomach flu that our whole team as well as our assistants had caught while recently staying in a hotel, again caused me some serious problems and I already wanted to end the race after only a few kilometers. I will take part at the upcoming Cross Country Italian Championships and also at the Marathon Tour Race in Pragelato. With Johnny Cattaneo I will participate at the Transrockies Stage Race in Canada in August. This race is very similar to the Transalp Challenge. After this on my programme there is still a competition in Utah in the USA.

Elena Giacomuzzi (1st): This year I prepared myself very well and today everything went brilliantly. To me the Suedtirol Dolomiti Superbike is the most beautiful competition in Italy. At the moment everything in my life is going well. This is also thanks to my partner. He supports me wherever he can, in private life as well as in sports. I am a simple person and I love the sports that somehow I have in my blood. A victory brings me much happiness. It is only a pity that yesterday I was not nominated for the WCH as part of the Italian National Team.

Anita Steiner (2nd): At the beginning I had quite a few problems today. Recently I suffered of diarrhea and this really weakened me. After Toblach/Dobbiaco I had problems with my front tire pressure. On the way I had no personal assistance today, because my husband rode the long distance himself. To me the course here does not appear to be that difficult. Unfortunately I did not know Elena Giacomuzzi and at the first mountain prize I only knew that I was second. Last year I was able to win the short distance here and in two weeks time I will participate at the Transalp Challenge as well.

Sonja Fink (3.): I am very happy, because I did not expect it at all. I live in Weiler in Allgäu and was already third at the Marathons in Garmisch and Tegernsee. I am already looking forward to the 24 Hour Race of Ruhpolding in three weeks. Up to now today's third rank is the best result of my sportive career. To me mountain biking is only a hobby, the same way alpine touring and country-cross skiing is. Professionally talking I am an optician.

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