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Press Release

TACITA WITH SYLVAIN ESPINASSE AND OSCAR POLLI TO TAKE ON 2024 DAKAR RALLY

Tacita's racing team is officially ready to face the toughest off-road challenge at 2024 Dakar Rally with its new Tacita Discanto

Turin, December 20, 2023 - The countdown to the 2024 edition of Dakar Rally has begun. **Tacita**, the 100% Italian motorcycle manufacturer of exclusive electric models, is ready to take on the **Dakar Future - Mission 1000** challenge with its racing team Tacita Formula Corsa.



A few days ago, the Turin-based manufacturer unveiled the model of the two electric motorbikes that will cross the desert: the **Tacita Discanto** represents the prelude to the company's flagship model for 2025. Riding the prototypes will be two experienced riders: Frenchman **Sylvain Espinasse** and Italian **Oscar Polli**.

Espinasse is the man of great challenges. He counts three Dakar participations on his shoulders: a memorable one was in 2016, when he reached the finish line under the watchful eye of **Nicolas Chaix**, now team manager of Tacita Formula Corsa but also creator and director of the only French rally cycling team (Sherco) from 2005 to 2016 and with eight DAKAR participations. Espinasse is a prominent figure in the world of motorsport who knows how to dose energy, a skill of extreme importance in the Dakar but even more so in the Mission 1000 category.



"I have done three completely different Dakar, and I like the challenge," Espinasse commented. "The electric bike is a great technological breakthrough, I admire Tacita for their great work, and we hope to write a new page in history together. It's a technological challenge in terms of autonomy and maintenance, but by now the electric is increasingly reliable, so much so that it is becoming more and more popular".

TACITA SRL
Headquarter
Via San Quintino, 43
10121 TORINO
P.IVA C.F. 10633510010
www.tacita.it

Factory
Via Torino, 24
10046 POIRINO (TO)
info@tacita.it



Oscar Polli, on the other hand, is one of the most experienced riders on the international scene, as well as federal coach and founder of *FreeRacing*, his motocross and enduro school, which is also well known beyond national borders. In 2008 Polli became World Rally Raid Champion and then won the Dakar Africa Eco Race in 2012 and was awarded the Italian Gold Medal for Athletic Valour.

"I accepted this challenge because I consider it innovative and progressive," comments Polli. "Bringing an electric bike - an Italian one - to the dunes is very important, especially in view of the new future that sends us more and more towards a sustainable direction. Tacita Discanto is a unique model: its electric engine with gears makes everything very exciting. I am sure it will be an experience that will enrich me as a driver and as a coach".

The Turin-based manufacturer takes a step forward with the presentation of Tacita Discanto, after a long time of testing and effort by the whole team in the toughest conditions.

The Tacita Discanto is not just an evolution of the model that debuted in 2020 Dakar, but it's a revolution in the world of off-road racing. It differs from any electric motorcycle for other very important factors. Among the main ones: the five-speed mechanical gearbox, the liquid cooling for the engine and controller, and finally the battery management system (BMS).

In addition to **Pierpaolo Rigo** and **Luca Oddo**, respectively **President** and **CEO of Tacita**, the team includes *Luca Calafati, Luca Sardo, Sylvain Espinasse, Oscar Polli, Nicolas Chiax, Franck Boulisset* and *Nico Marchesi*.

"Espinasse and Polli are two excellent drivers, at this time the best suited to our growth path," comments Pierpaolo Rigo, President of Tacita. "They bring experience and ambition, exactly what we were looking for. We have a great team with versatile skills, strongly prepared and with extraordinary motivation, so we start with the best possible conditions. Returning to the Dakar is a great emotion for us, we are going there to prove to the world that we are competitive and reliable".

TACITA

Tacita is a 100% Italian electric vehicle motorcycle manufacturer founded in 2011 in Poirino, in the province of Turin (Italy), by Pierpaolo Rigo and his wife Dinamaria Ollino to combine the riding pleasure that motorcyclists seek in a two-wheeler, both on urban and off-road roads, with the green philosophy. Thanks to the experience in extreme competitions such as the Dakar and the passion of its two founders, the company has developed a 100% made in Italy technology that has as its strengths: the five-speed mechanical gearbox, liquid cooling for motor and controller, interchangeable batteries and finally the battery management system (BMS). With Tacita, travel becomes an important part of our daily experiences and innovation becomes the silent and discreet companion of every adventure.

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www.tacita.it

Factory
Via Torino, 24
10046 POIRINO (TO)
info@tacita.it



For more information: www.tacita.it

PRESS OFFICE | ABG PR

Via Mosè Bianchi 24, Milano | Via Pasquale Paoli 46, Como

Erica Ongaro | erica@abgpr.com | +39 351 78 45 197
Maurizio Cardone | maurizio@abgpr.com | +39 333 42 23 443

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Headquarter
Via San Quintino, 43
10121 TORINO
P.IVA C.F. 10633510010
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