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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **FIS FACT SHEET**

### **Val di Fiemme 2013: FIS Anti-Doping Programme at the World Championships**

The fight against doping remains an important focus for FIS, through a zero-tolerance policy on doping and cheating in sport. The FIS Nordic World Ski Championships 2013 in Val di Fiemme will hence feature a very comprehensive anti-doping program. In addition to in-competition testing after all competitions, the program includes a significant out-of-competition testing program. Similar programs were already executed prior to the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships since 2003 and the Olympic Winter Games in 2002, 2006 and 2010.

Testing in Val di Fiemme will be carried out in co-operation with one representative of the Italian Anti-Doping Organisation. Pre-competition blood testing will be carried out on all Cross-Country and Nordic Combined competitors by the FIS-appointed specialist agency, PWC, and approximately 450 pre-competition blood tests will be conducted.

For all events in the three Nordic disciplines, the number of athletes subject to post-competition doping controls is the top 4 plus 2 at random, as per FIS Rules. In total, 126 post-competition controls will be carried out during the championships.

#### **1. Out-of-Competition Testing Program**

The FIS Anti-Doping Programme continues to focus on unannounced out-of-competition testing, collecting athlete biological passport (ABP) tests from athletes in the registered testing pool. In addition to Cross-Country Skiing and Nordic Combined, since the 2011/12 season Alpine Skiing and Ski Jumping athletes have also been included in the ABP testing that involves “at home” blood and urine tests. Additionally, in order to be compliant with current rules for the Athlete Biological Passport Programme, the FIS Anti-Doping Rules have been adapted from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

Following the practice of the previous season and mandated by the World Anti-Doping Code, no notice, out-of-competition target tests remain the primary focus of testing. The FIS International Testing Pool currently consists of 334 athletes in the FIS Olympic disciplines.

From 1<sup>st</sup> May to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013, FIS has conducted the following number of out-of-competition tests:

<b>FIS Out-of-Competition Tests 1st May 2012 – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013</b>				
	<b>Urine</b>	<b>EPO</b>	<b>Blood tests</b>	<b>Blood passport</b>
<b>Cross-Country</b>	218	218	88	948
<b>Nordic Combined</b>	48	40	33	130
<b>Ski Jumping</b>	39	24	36	1
<b>Alpine</b>	128	35	89	107
<b>Freestyle Skiing</b>	15			
<b>Snowboard</b>	32			
<b>Total</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1186</b>

In addition, during the same time period, WADA (the World Anti-Doping Agency) has conducted the following number of out-of-competition tests:

<b>WADA Out-of-Competition Tests 1st May 2012 – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013</b>				
	<b>Urine</b>	<b>EPO</b>	<b>Blood tests</b>	<b>Blood passport</b>
<b>Cross-Country</b>	15	12	15	9
<b>Nordic Combined</b>	3	2	1	
<b>Alpine</b>	3	2		
<b>Freestyle Skiing</b>	1			
<b>Snowboard</b>	2	2		

These numbers do not include the out-of-competition tests conducted by the National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs) under their responsibility.

To view a statistical summary of tests conducted during the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 seasons, please refer to <http://www.fis-ski.com/data/document/fis-wada-testing-2010-11-season-final-150411.pdf> and <http://www.fis-ski.com/data/document/fis-ooct-2011-12-season-final.pdf>

## **2. In-Competition Testing Programme during the FIS World Cups**

FIS conducts in-competition testing at selected FIS World Cup events. Additionally, in-competition testing is coordinated with many National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs) and in-competition testing is carried out by NADOS at a number of FIS World Cup events.

## **3. FIS Anti-Doping Rules 2013 and Start Prohibition**

The FIS Council during its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2012 in Oberhofen (SUI) approved amendments to the FIS Anti-Doping Rules in order to ensure they are up to date with current practice, especially to integrate the implementation of the Athletes Blood Passport in relation to start prohibition.

The hematological module of the FIS Athlete Biological Passport Testing involves regular monitoring of Markers of blood doping on a longitudinal basis to identify enhancement of oxygen transport, including use of erythropoiesis stimulating agents and any form of blood transfusion or manipulation. Longitudinal monitoring of athletes' blood profiles helps detect blood doping and warrants the exclusion from competition of athletes with aberrant variations in markers of blood doping.

Further calculated Markers specific to the haematological module include OFF-hr Score, which is a combination of Haemoglobin and percentage of reticulocytes, and abnormal blood profile score, which is a combination of haematocrit, haemoglobin, red blood cells, percentage of reticulocytes, mean corpuscular volume, mean corpuscular haemoglobin and mean corpuscular haemoglobin concentration.

The Adaptive Model is capable of identifying atypical values or profiles that warrant further attention and review. It predicts for an individual an expected range within which a series of Marker values falls assuming a normal physiological condition.

In the event that a result is an atypical value or triggers an atypical longitudinal profile, the Passport must be reviewed by an expert. In case the expert is of the opinion that it is highly unlikely that the longitudinal profile is the result of a normal physiological or pathological condition and may be the result of the use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method, a start prohibition of five consecutive days will be issued.

The earlier applied start prohibition based on a high haemoglobin value only has been removed.

To view the FIS Anti-Doping Rules in its version valid from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 on, please refer to <http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/medical/fisanti-doping/medicalantidoping/rulesandforms.html>

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The overall investment by FIS in its Anti-Doping programme during the 2012/2013 season is budgeted with the same amount as in the previous season and amounts to approximately CHF 1.5 million. This includes both the in- and out-of-competition testing programs and various preventive, informational and educational efforts.

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### **About FIS**

FIS is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding, founded in 1924 during the first Olympic Games in Chamonix, France. Recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross-Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding, including setting the international competition rules. Through its 115 member nations, more than 6'500 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote snow activities as a healthy leisure recreation, notably for the young.

For more information, please visit [www.fis-ski.com](http://www.fis-ski.com).

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