

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION Blochstrasse 2 3653 Oberhofen/Thunersee Switzerland

FOR MORE INFORMATION Riikka Rakic FIS Communications Manager Mobile: + 41 79 64 34 281 E-Mail: rakic@fisski.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIS MEDIA INFO

Fatal Accident at FIS Ski Cross World Cup in Grindelwald

The Canadian Ski Cross athlete Nick Zoricic crashed heavily during the Ski Cross in Grindelwald on 10th March 2012 and died as a result of the injuries.

The Ski Cross World Cup in Grindelwald on 10th March 2012 was overshadowed by the fatal accident. The Canadian athlete Nick Zoricic fell heavily just before the finish in the round of eight, crashing directly into the safety netting and thereafter laying motionless. The medical care from team doctors and Air Glacier followed immediately. Despite reanimation Zoricic died at 12.35 as a result of severe neurotrauma.

Zoricic, 29 years old began his ski career as an Alpine athlete and switched later to Ski Cross. He achieved two podium places in his Ski Cross career (2010/11 and 2011/12) and was sixth in the overall standings in 2011.

After the tragic accident the Organisers decided to cancel the entire Event in Grindelwald including both races from Saturday 10th and the World Cup Final on 11th March.

The Organising Committee, FIS and Swiss Ski express their deepest condolences to the family and friends of Nick Zoricic and the Canadian Ski Team.

For further information: OC President Christoph Egger +41 79 631 1081. For medical information: Chief Doctor Air Glacier Bruno Durrer: +41 33 856 26 26 / +41 33 856 05 60

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 114 member nations, more than 6'000 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 <u>www.fis-ski.com</u>