

Dakar 2017: IVECO once again on the podium of the world's toughest rally

Gerard de Rooy places the PETRONAS De Rooy IVECO Team and his #500 IVECO Powerstar in third place at the 2017 Dakar Rally having driven almost 9,000 km across South America's most difficult roads.

Turin, January 16, 2017

The 39th running of the Dakar Rally came to an end with Saturday's 12th stage. With a short special of 64 kilometres looping Río Cuarto, participants took their vehicles to the finish line to conclude the world's most difficult rally event.

Gerard de Rooy, PETRONAS De Rooy IVECO team leader and winner of the 2012 and 2016 Dakar rallies with IVECO, took his Powerstar to the third spot on the podium having battled adversity and jockeyed for position with his rivals during the two weeks' competition.

Having led the race, the Dutchman suffered several punctures through the stages. As a result he fell back behind other vehicles, so that excessive dust and limited opportunities to overtake frustrated his efforts to regain the lead. But the power of his IVECO truck enabled him to add another podium finish to his name, as he finished third, 41m19s behind Dakar winner, Eduard Nikolaev.

Ton van Genugten's and Wuf van Ginkel's IVECO Trakkers travelled together in the last stages and recovered some positions after losing more than six hours for being stuck in mud.

Van Genugten, behind the wheel of #507, finished in 16th place, almost seven hours away from the leaders. Van Ginkel arrived behind his teammate in 17th position, but more than eight hours behind.

Behind the wheel of another IVECO Powerstar, Federico Villagra finished the 2017 Dakar Rally just behind De Rooy in fourth place. He was not able to repeat last year's podium win and is yet to achieve his aim to win a stage. However, the Argentine driver showed good potential in his second year with IVECO.

Stage 12 Results – Dakar 2017

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|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. Eduard Nikolaev (Kamaz) | 34m25s |
| 2. Airat Mardeev (Kamaz) | +33s |

3. Siarhei Viazovich (Maz)	+44s
4. Peter Versluis (MAN)	+1m09s
5. Federico Villagra (IVECO)	+1m25s

8. Gerard de Rooy (IVECO)	+2m21s
10. Wuf van Ginkel (IVECO)	+2m40s
11. Ton van Genugten (IVECO)	+2m42s

Overall Classification – Dakar 2017

1. Eduard Nikolaev (Kamaz)	27h58m24s
2. Dmitry Sotnikov (Kamaz)	+18m58s
3. Gerard de Rooy (IVECO)	+41m19s
4. Federico Villagra (IVECO)	+1h00m04s
5. Airat Mardeev (Kamaz)	+2h26m50s

16. Ton van Genugten (IVECO)	+6h58m03s
17. Wuf van Ginkel (IVECO)	+8h19m48s

IVECO

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The brand's wide range of products include the Daily, a vehicle that covers the 3 – 7.2 ton vehicle weight segment, the Eurocargo from 6 – 19 tons, the Trakker (dedicated to off-road missions) and the Stralis, both over 16 tons. In addition, the IVECO Astra brand builds off-road trucks, rigid and articulated dumpers as well as special vehicles.

IVECO employs close to 21,000 individuals globally. It manages production sites in 7 countries throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania and Latin America where it produces vehicles featuring the latest advanced technologies. 4,200 sales and service outlets in over 160 countries guarantee technical support wherever an IVECO vehicle is at work.

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