

ESL and Epic Games to host the first joint international Fortnite competition

- Intel Extreme Masters (IEM) Katowice Expo 2019 will host the first 'ESL Katowice Royale - Featuring Fortnite' on 23-24 February and 1-3 March 2019
- ESL continues to bring the world's most popular games to esports fans, creating an ultimate gaming destination live, on air and online

MTG's Turtle Entertainment, the operator of the world's largest esports company <u>ESL</u>, and Epic Games have announced that their first international Fortnite competition will take place at <u>IEM Katowice Expo 2019</u>. 'ESL Katowice Royale - Featuring Fortnite' will span two weekends at the legendary arena and feature prominent Fortnite influencers.

The first of its kind tournament will be split into two epic weekends – a Polish and an International edition of the battle royale. On 23-24 February, the best Polish players will compete for a USD 100,000 prize pool; and on 1-3 March, 100 of the world's best Fortnite players and influencers will battle for a USD 500,000 prize pool.

Jørgen Madsen Lindemann, MTG President & CEO: "The partnership between ESL and Epic Games sees the two leaders in the gaming industry creating a battle royale competition like no other. ESL is bringing its 20-year experience in organising professional tournaments and engaging fans to host a branded event for one of the world's most played games. The upcoming competition offers the best of competitive gaming at an iconic venue and marks a strong start to 2019."

Esports is a broad umbrella of competitive games that encompasses distinct sub-cultures and demographics. The 'battle royale' genre is going through a renaissance and features survival and exploration elements with the last-man-standing gameplay. Epic Games' Fortnite is one of the world's most successful battle royale games, based on the number of players worldwide*. ESL's flagship events showcase video games that attract top players and millions of passionate fans live, online and on air in multiple territories.

Full details, including the list of top-tier influencers due to compete in Katowice, will be announced by ESL in the upcoming weeks.

*SuperData, Battle Royale: Taking the games market by storm, 2018

NOTES TO EDITORS

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