

PRESS RELEASE  
PRAGUE 7. 9. 2012

## **Marathon Record holder, Makau gets the AIMS World's Fastest Time Award in Prague.**

**Patrick Makau, the Kenyan world record holder in the marathon and the main star of Saturday's Mattoni Prague Grand Prix, has a full day of social events behind him.**

In the morning, he visited Ústí nad Labem, the location of the last of this year's races in the RunCzech.com running circuit (Volkswagen Ústí Half marathon - September 16). He met with the mayor, Vít Mandík, and then took part in a discussion with students of athletic schools, from grades eight and nine. "You are young runners at the most important age. The main thing is to run hard together", he advised them. "I am prepared to help you anytime and give you advice", he offered.

When asked when he started running, he answered with a smile: "Where I live, life is difficult; you have to move around a lot. You have to go far for water as well as to the shop for groceries or to school. And so, we run there."

In the afternoon, he appeared at the Prague Mayor's residence on Mariánský Square in Prague, where he received the AIMS (Association of International Marathons and Distance Races) World's Fastest Time Award for his excellent record of 2:03:38 from last year's marathon in Berlin.

Makau broke the world record by 21 seconds last year on September 25<sup>th</sup>, beating the former record holder, Haile Gebrselassie in the process. The record was officially accepted and confirmed by the International Association of Athletic Federations, the IAAF, and AIMS. Makau became the eighteenth holder of the trophy. One year ago he received the AIMS Athlete of the Year Award.

Makau received the Award from the Prague deputy, Jiří Nouza, a member of the AIMS Board of Directors, Bruno Boukobza from France and Carlo Capalbo, President of the organizing committee of Saturday's Mattoni Prague Grand Prix, where Makau will run the Metro 10K Race.

"I am very happy that I got onto such a prestigious list and that I will get the award in a country where I have so many friends and I feel so at home. I believe that such great races will continue to be organized here," said Makau with a grateful yet shy smile.

"Patrick is an excellent athlete and we are pleased to give him this award," noted Paco Borao, AIMS President. "It is my great honor to give this award in Prague, at the event of our Mattoni Grand Prix race. After all, AIMS represents more than 330 long distance races in 96 countries around the world" declared Carlo Capalbo.

### **Timetable of the Mattoni Grand Prix Saturday 8. 9.**

7:00pm adidas Women's Race 5 km

7:40pm Hilton Cloud 9 Barmen's Race

8:30pm Metro 10K Race

For more information, go to [www.praguemarathon.com](http://www.praguemarathon.com)



**Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o. / tempo team prague s.r.o.**

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**Notes for editors:**

**Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o.**

The company Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o. ("PIM") was established by its President, Carlo Capalbo, in 1995, in order to organise the first ever international marathon to take place on the streets of Prague. This first marathon saw 958 runners taking part and, since then, PIM has developed its activities into a series of running events that, together, are known as the PIM Running Circuit. In 2010 the PIM Running Circuit attracted more than 50,000 runners from all over the world, from which 8,000 took part in the marathon.

The Volkswagen Prague Marathon was recently voted as one of the top 10 marathons in the world, taking place in one of the most beautiful locations and, in 2010, it became the seventh fastest marathon in the world (Eliud Kiptanui's time of 2:05:39). Since 1999 PIM has also been the organiser of the annual Prague half marathon, as well as the annual Grand Prix group of short track races.

In the years since its first incorporation, the PIM races have been sponsored by some of the biggest investors in the Czech Republic, including Volkswagen, adidas, Hervis and Mattoni. The overall organisation and the general atmosphere of the races have attracted many of the world's leading athletes (Haile Gebrselassie, Stefano Baldini, Paul Tergat, Moses Tanui and Antonio Pinto) and brought thousands of visitors to the Czech Republic.

PIM is one of the few race organizers throughout the world to hold the collection of three IAAF Road Race Labels: IAAF Road Race Silver Label for the METRO 10k Race, as well as the IAAF Road Race Gold Label for the Hervis Prague Half Marathon and the Volkswagen Prague Marathon.

**tempo team prague s.r.o.**

The term "tempo" is an acronym for "The European Marathon Promotion Organization", which focuses on developing marathon races along with other running events in Europe. The tempo team company was set up in 2000 by a group of experts and sporting enthusiasts.

tempo team's activities entail concept creation, brand building, marketing as well as the actual organisation of sporting events. Right from the start, tempo team has played a key role in organising the Prague marathon as well as developing the PIM Running series. For the purpose of holding the Volkswagen Olomouc Half Marathon, tempo put together a special team of experts furnished with over fifteen year experience in the area of organising running events. The first ever Volkswagen Olomouc Half Marathon was held in 2010 and signified the first race the tempo team organised outside of Prague. In 2011 a further race was added to the series, the Volkswagen Ustí Half Marathon taking place last September and in 2012 the Mattoni České Budějovice Half Marathon taking place in June.

