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## THE KTM X-BOW IN ACTION AT THE ROC PORTUGAL 2010: EMANUELE PIRRO AND PORTUGAL COULD CHEER!

Two days of motor sports action at its finest. The best racing drivers from Italy, Monaco, Portugal and Spain as well as real racing legends delivered a fierce battle – the ROC event in Portugal last weekend was not only a spectacle for the thousands of fans there, but also a perfect preparation for the big finale at the end of the year, which will take place on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of November in the ESPRIT-Arena in Dusseldorf.

Naturally the KTM X-BOW, which had already wowed the world's best racing drivers at the ROC over the last few years, was there as well. And in Portugal, too, the open super sports car fought for tenth of seconds. The pilots felt pretty comfortable in its carbon monocoque - during the 'Legends Race', as well as during the 'ROC South Europe'.

In pairs the pilots had to master a nearly 3km long track constructed at the 'Autódromo Internacional do Algarve' near Portimão. On the first day it was up to the 'legends' to fight for victory: Mick Doohan, Emanuele Pirro, Johnny Herbert, Stig Blomqvist, Marcus Grönholm, Armin Schwarz, Dindo Capello and Filipe Campos had to compete against each other. At the end the five times Le Mans winner Emanuele Pirro kept the upper hand against the ex-Formula One pilot Johnny Herbert. 'A wonderful feeling' so Pirro about his triumph. 'Now I am old enough to be a legend at the start of the ROC – and to win at the end of it is great. The track was a challenge, the spectators were super – the Race of Champions is just cool!' The perfect atmosphere between the races was created by the Red Bull X-Fighters and stunt driver Terry Grant, who at times also utilized the X-BOW for his spectacular show.

The second day was marked by the country-quadrathlon between Italy, Monaco, Portugal and Spain fighting for the title „ROC South Europe“ – and with it for the promotion to the big ROC finale in November. Youth managed to prevail in the end: Filipe Albuquerque and Alvaro Parente, the youngsters from Portugal made a clean sweep against the Italian team Emanuele Pirro/Dindo Capello in the final leg. Before that the Italian duo defeated Spain (with Dani Sordo and Nani Roma), the Portuguese combination triumphed over Monaco (with Stephane Ortelli and Clivio Piccione). 'Fantastic', Albuquerque cheered, 'I am over the moon that we have managed to get Portugal into the ROC Nations Cup World Final'. And his successful team mate, Alvaro Parente, added: 'A great result, for which we have to thank our fans here – now we'll look ahead and want to represent Portugal gracefully at the ROC final in Dusseldorf!'.

The stars were also of one opinion as far as their enthusiasm about the KTM X-BOW was concerned, which was praised as a 'real racing car' with 'most precise handling', although the cars used on location were totally unmodified and could be licensed for normal road use in Europe and many other countries worldwide. By the way: there will be more international champions behind the steering wheel of the X-BOW at the ROC in Dusseldorf on November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>: Many super stars have already confirmed their attendance, including Sebastian Vettel, Travis Pastrana, Alain Prost or Seb Loeb!

More info can be found under [www.raceofchampions.com](http://www.raceofchampions.com), tickets under [www.race-of-champions.de!](http://www.race-of-champions.de!)

