



**MAN increases involvement in professional cycling
Co-sponsor for Team CSC**

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MAN Aktiengesellschaft is a new co-sponsor for Team CSC, one of the best professional cycling teams in the world. In past years, MAN has provided a team coach and a service truck for the CSC cyclists managed by Bjarne Riis, winner of the 1996 Tour de France. In future, the MAN logo will also be displayed four times on CSC shirts and pants. This commitment is intended to promote added international awareness of the MAN commercial-vehicle and engineering group.

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"Team CSC is a perfect partner. It represents reliability and dynamic momentum at an international level and therefore ideally symbolises our corporate values," stresses Håkan Samuelsson, MAN's Executive Board Chairman. Successfully achieving the goal together as a team - this applies as much to the CSC cyclists as to the MAN Group and its business areas of Commercial Vehicles, Industrial Services, Printing Presses, Diesel Engines and Turbomachines.

CSC team boss Bjarne Riis welcomes this extension of the partnership, saying, "We have gained an excellent partner and are very proud to be actively supported by such a major enterprise." In recent years, he has effectively shaped CSC to become one of the world's top teams, leading them to success. During the 2006 season, 30 cyclists from 13 countries will be lining up for the CSC team.

One of the ambitious goals set by CSC boss Riis is to defend the title as the best ProTour team of 2005. Last Sunday's victory recorded by the American Bobby Julich on the Paris-Nice prologue has already given CSC a promising start to the ProTour series. CSC will also be entering Ivan Basso from Italy for the Tour de France, one of the top favourites tipped to win. Over the past years, Riis has built up an extremely strong crew of world-class professionals who are working together to achieve their sporting goals. Ranging from everybody's darling Jens Voigt (Germany), the new entrant Fabian Cancellara (Switzerland) and Carlos Sastre (Spain) to Fränk Schleck (Luxembourg) and shooting star David Zabriskie (USA), Team CSC has an abundance of options.

"Our team is extremely versatile and stands a good chance of defending its position as world leader," says Bjarne Riis, viewing the coming season with great optimism.

MAN will be taking the CSC cyclists and their kit safely to the starting line, one of MAN's exclusive "Lion's Coaches" being available for the team. Racing bikes and spares will be transported by two MAN trucks. "For many years, MAN has been a reliable logistics partner both during the races and when we're not actually cycling," stresses CSC boss Bjarne Riis.

Photo caption:

Cycling Team CSC on "Tour of Qatar 2006".

Photo: Time de Waele

(Picture library: <http://bildarchiv.man.de>)

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