**Marek Goczał and Maciej Marton on the 2026 Dakar Rally Stage 4 Podium. The entire Energylandia Rally Team in the TOP 6!**

* **Marek Goczał and Maciej Marton were the fastest Polish crew today, finishing 3rd on Stage 4 of the 2026 Dakar Rally**
* **All three Energylandia Rally Team crews finished in the TOP 6**
* **Wednesday marked the first part of the marathon stage – competitors will not return to the bivouac today**

****The fourth stage of the 2026 Dakar Rally brought another fantastic result for the Polish, family-run, private Energylandia Rally Team. Marek Goczał and Maciej Marton finished the day in an excellent 3rd place. Right behind them, in 4th position, were Eryk Goczał, Marek’s son, together with Szymon Gospodarczyk. To complete the strong team performance, Michał Goczał and Diego Ortega finished the stage in 6th place. All Energylandia Rally Team crews found themselves among the absolute leaders of the marathon stage and once again competed head-to-head with the world’s biggest factory teams.

The team’s result is even more impressive given that today’s special stage was 452 kilometers long, posing an enormous challenge in terms of navigation and endurance – not only for the crews, but also for the cars. Now the Polish crews must inspect their Toyota Hilux T1+ cars on their own and prepare them for tomorrow’s stage. Today they cannot rely on service support. As part of the marathon stage, competitors will spend the night in the desert, where the organizer will provide tents, sleeping bags, and food rations.

- *In the past, it somehow happened that we never really had the chance to complete a marathon stage. This time we wanted to break that streak, so we decided to drive calmly and sensibly, with the finish as our main goal. I think we had tire pressures that were a bit too high today, which cost us some time. However, at the finish it turned out that the result is excellent. Now we have to inspect the cars, then we’ll collect tents and sleeping bags from the organizer and go to sleep. Tomorrow we’re back in the fight* - said Marek Goczał, third-place finisher of Stage 4 of the 2026 Dakar Rally.

- *It was a very difficult stage for me. I got some kind of food poisoning and had serious stomach problems in the morning. I only started feeling better halfway through the stage. Our strategy is starting to pay off. Today we finish 4th and move up to 9th place in the overall standings. We’re already at the place where we’ll set up our tents and spend the night. The car is in perfect condition – we just need to inspect it and check everything, and it will be ready for tomorrow* - said Eryk Goczał, speaking from the middle of the desert at the marathon bivouac.

- *It was an insanely difficult stage. From the very beginning we had extremely complicated navigation, and the tracks were mixed with yesterday’s ones. On top of that, when we started there was no wind at all. The dust stayed in place – we were driving as if in fog. At times we were circling around, searching for waypoints. Once we even had to turn back because we drove into the wrong riverbed. But it seems we weren’t the only ones with such problems, because the time is very good* - summarized Szymon Gospodarczyk, Eryk’s co-driver.

- *What a day – beautiful views, enjoyable driving – today was almost perfect. We had some minor navigation issues and got one puncture, but on a stage like this it’s nothing major. I was a bit concerned about our brakes, but we’ll sort that out quickly and tomorrow we’ll be back in the fight. I’m happy because it was a very long stage and we finished in a strong 6th place. What’s more, all of* *us are at the front, so it really couldn’t be any better* - concluded Michał Goczał.

Tomorrow the competitors will face the second part of the marathon stage. At dawn they will set off towards Hail. The special stage will be 371 kilometers long, followed by a 56-kilometer liaison from the finish to the bivouac.