

ENERGYLANDIA RALLY TEAM

Energylandia Rally Team opened the Dakar Rally Stage 10. The Polish family-run team reached the finish in Bisha with all three crews

- Following yesterday's success, the Energylandia Rally Team crews opened today's stage
- Despite complex navigation through the dunes, the Polish team reached the finish line
- The Dakar Rally Stage 10 concluded the two-day marathon



Competitors taking part in the Dakar Rally have completed the second marathon of this year's event. The special stage from a desert bivouac to Bisha measured 420 kilometers. The route ran mostly over sand and dunes, demanding not only speed but also technical precision. After their victory in Stage 9, Eryk Goczał and Szymon Gospodarczyk were the first crew to set off today. Michał Goczał and Diego Ortega, who finished second yesterday, followed shortly behind. After Tuesday's major success, it was Energylandia Rally Team that opened the competition today.



This meant that the Polish family-run team had to face the most complex navigation and create the tracks for the rest of the field. Despite the difficulty of the task, the Poles rose to the challenge and reached the bivouac in Bisha. All three Energylandia Rally Team crews remain in the rally and are ready for the next challenges.

- The Dakar marathon is done. This was probably the most demanding and the craziest special stage of my life. Today we were the first crew on the stage. I had never been in such a situation before – usually you can already see tracks from other cars and motorcycles. This time there was absolutely no

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one ahead of us. Szymon had to focus intensely on navigation, and I tried to drive in a way that would keep us from getting lost. On top of that, our steering rod broke, so we lost some time. Nevertheless, opening the stage at Dakar was a great experience. I'm happy we reached the finish and are heading back to the bivouac - said Eryk Goczał at the finish.

- Being first on the road was a big challenge, but I thought it would be worse. We got lightly stuck twice, but we dealt with it quickly. Later on, Toby Price caught up with us and started creating a rather strange track. At one point, the entire leading group gathered there, all searching for a waypoint. Eryk and I decided we had to drive our own way and ignore the tracks, because there was a lot of confusion. We also broke a steering rod, but Eryk once again showed that he is an excellent mechanic, so we replaced it quickly. Reaching the finish was the most important thing today - summed up Szymon Gospodarczyk, Eryk's co-driver.

- These were two very long days for us. We were driving practically without shock absorbers, so you can imagine how we feel now. We were bouncing along the stage like a kangaroo. I don't know what happened and we couldn't do anything about it. Fortunately, we reached the finish – we'll see what Dakar brings us in the final days - said Marek Goczał at the finish of Stage 10.

- Together with Eryk, we were among the first crews on the stage today, so simply reaching the finish was a success for us. We punctured four tires today. At one point, we had no spare wheels left, and two other tires were slowly losing the pressure. Eryk and Szymon lent us one wheel and somehow we managed to reach the finish. It was tough – twice we spent a long time searching for a waypoint – but that's rallying. Being second on the stage was a great adventure and I would like to experience it again someday - emphasized Michał Goczał.



Tomorrow, the competitors will tackle the stage from Bisha to Al Henakiyah. The organizer warns of complex navigation that may turn the stage into a real labyrinth for the crews. The special stage will be 346 kilometers long, with a 537-kilometer liaison.