

ENERGYLANDIA RALLY TEAM

Excellent Day for Energylandia Rally Team at the Dakar Rally. Two Polish Crews in the Stage 12 Top Six

- Eryk Goczał and Szymon Gospodarczyk finished the Dakar Rally Stage 12 in 5th place
- Right behind them, in 6th position, finished Marek Goczał and Maciej Marton
- Energylandia Rally Team crews successfully completed the penultimate stage of the rally



The 2026 Dakar Rally is slowly coming to an end. On Friday, competitors tackled the penultimate stage of the event, running from Al Henakiyah to Yanbu – the place where it all began at the start of January. Crews faced 409 kilometers of liaison sections and 311 kilometers of special stage. Eryk Goczał and Szymon Gospodarczyk delivered a superb performance today. Once again, the Energylandia Rally Team crew broke into the front runners field, finishing in a strong 5th position.

Just behind them, in 6th place, finished Eryk's father, Marek Goczał, together with Maciej Marton. Two crews in the top six mark another major success for the Polish, family-run, private team in the world's most difficult rally. With a slightly larger time loss, Michał Goczał and Diego Ortega also reached the finish in Yanbu, meaning that the entire Energylandia Rally Team will line up for the final stage of the competition tomorrow.



- The organizers prepared a beautiful finale to this rally for us – today's stage had everything, a real Dakar capsule. We finished in 5th place, which I consider a very good result among the crews still fighting for top positions in the overall standings. We got one puncture and at one point got stuck on huge

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rocks, but we made it to the finish. My dad and Maciek were right behind us, so it was a great day. Dakar is slowly coming to an end, which makes it a bit sad... but we still have the final stage tomorrow, so we'll enjoy it to the very last meters - said Eryk Goczał at the finish of Stage 12.

- It was definitely a very intense stage, a lot was happening and it required full concentration. I'm happy because Eryk and I work very well together in the car – we complement each other and support one another. We tried to push, even in the rocky sections, which allowed us to overtake several cars on the route. When we arrived at the finish, the board showed the second-fastest time, but crews behind us already had more tracks and could "straighten" their lines, which certainly helped them. Fifth place is a great result for us - summed up Eryk's co-driver, Szymon Gospodarczyk.

- The plan for today was simple – full attack and fight for the highest possible position. It was a true



Dakar stage through and through – exactly the kind I like. Dunes, rocks, riverbeds – we had everything today. A few kilometers in, we got thrown into the air and landed straight into a rock so hard that the car cut out and everything went black for a moment. After that, we decided to ease off a bit and make sure we reached the finish safely. I'm happy that even with a slightly lower pace we achieved such a good time. Eryk and Szymon put

a minute on us today, but we'll make it even with them tomorrow - Marek Goczał joked at the finish.

Saturday marks the final stage of the 2026 Dakar Rally. Competitors will face just 33 kilometers of liaison and 108 kilometers of special stage, which will lead the crews into the heart of the bivouac in Yanbu, straight to the finish ceremony.