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The X-TREM Challenge Andorra keeps growing.

In Sant Julià de Lòria the Copa TT 2012 winners of the Proto and Prepared categories will be revealed.

The Principality of Andorra, more precisely Sant Julià de Lòria and its surrounds, will be once again in the spotlight of the 4WD fans from all over Europe. The competition will last three days (from 12th to 14th October), enough for the best 4WD specialists to show their abilities in an environment praised by the teams that have previously faced its difficulties.

The X-TREM Challenge Andorra, raced for the fifth time on a yearly basis, continues to grow under the supervision of the Automóvil Club d'Andorra and with the unwavering support of the Sant Julià de Lòria City Hall. Once again, two men, Albert Cabanes and Ramón Pujol, will handle the organizational procedures of the race.

The Andorran meeting, of great difficulty for the 4WD, will gather teams of seven different nationalities. The number of participants was limited to 34, 20 in the Proto category and 14 in the Prepared category, and the registration has been closed for weeks. The organizers have, however, established a waiting list in order to cover any withdrawals before the race.

Amongst the 34 teams, there's a majority of Spanish and French teams but there's also some other returning participants like one team from Italy, Acerni Racing, two from Switzerland under ZZ Kustom, and three from Great Britain, with the veteran driver Tony Baskill, who won in 2010. Moreover, the 2012 race brings back to the competition the Reul brothers from Belgium who won in 2009 and had since decided to attend only as spectators, for which they were invited by the organizers. Four local teams (one Proto and three Prepared) complete the most international participants' list of the Andorran X-TREM.

The route has been prepared along the lines of the previous years and counts 41 daytime zones and during the night 6 orientation rounds that will be raced by all the participants as they best see fit. This year, however, the race won't start with the usual team zones on Friday afternoon, but instead the teams will have 15 minutes to complete each of the six zones that the organizers have designed to start defining the ranking.

At the X-TREM 2012 presentation ceremony, which took place in the Sant Julià de Lòria City Hall, the Honourable Mr Oliver Alís (Minister for Traffic and Sport of Sant Julià de Lòria) and Mr Toni Sasplugues (Secretary general of the Automóvil Club d'Andorra) shared the same opinion: ***The Sant Julià X-TREM is an event that started five years ago and that is now well consolidated as a 4WD European competition.***

As for Ramón Pujol (Race Director), he was very proud of the event's progress and wished not to have problems this year. Here is what he had to say: ***We have a great list of participants, with the Belgian team Reul Sport and the British team Gigglespin directed by Jim Marsden as the main favourites to win. There were 54 applicants but we had to settle for 34 teams since we think that if there were more cars the tracks would be crowded. It's been really hard to leave 20 teams out of the competition.*** As far as the route goes, the Andorran organizer put the stress on the difficulty of some of the competition zones: ***There are obstacles more than 2km long and we have also planned zones without time records. The route is very tough both for the drivers and the car mechanics.*** All in all, it will be an epic task to overcome all the 41 zones established by the organizers if the weather isn't favourable.

The technical and administrative verifications would take place in Sant Julià de Lòria city centre, to be precise in the City Hall parking, from 8.30 am on Friday (12th October). Once the verifications will be over, the teams will take their cars up to Canòlich, where will be set the service park of the race. At 3.30 pm, still on Friday, the participant teams will start the 5th X-TREM Challenge Andorra.

Press Service.

Provisional classification of the TT Cup 2012, before the Challenge Andorra:

Pos	Protos		Preparados		Serie	
1	Jaume Guardiola	27	Ernest Raventós	30	Joel Martinez	30
2	Albert Cabanes	23	Lluís Montserrat	20	Ramon Armengol	24
3	Marc Ambor	22	Jordi Betriu	18	Sergi Simó	18

