

Albert Llovera off to the DAKAR 2018

When there's half a year left (6 January 2018) for Lima (Peru) to become the stage of the beginning of the 40th edition of the Dakar, Albert Llovera and the Bonver Dakar Project team have finalized the agreement that will allow them to start their joined venture, for the third consecutive year, in one of the hardest events of the international motor sport's calendar.

Llovera is over the moon after signing the agreement that will allow him to pursue his spectacular progression in the DAKAR driving one of the monsters of the desert, the Tatra Jamail, with more than 900cv. These were his words about his feelings: For the project to be set six months before the start date is amazing, it's never happened to me before. We will take as much advantage as possible of this time to prepare all the aspects of the event.

One of the focus of attention in this preparation process will be without a doubt the set up of the Tatra; the experience of previous years will be decisive: **No doubt. The idea is to do tests on sand, in Morocco (Erg Chebbi)** and in Slovakia (Srebrenica). The evolution of the control panel and improving the driving position will be the technical parts we'll be focussing on.

The Andorran driver stressed how the evolution of the control panel is vital for him to be able to drive such a heavy vehicle only with his hands: For this, I work very closely with Guidosimplex. For now, Tonino, my trusted technician, is already working on an electronic throttle to avoid, as much as possible, the intense exhaustion of the joints in the left hand.

As for the driving position, the people at Sparco are the ones designing the new backet, which will provide extra comfort for the thousands of kilometres we'll be driving.

The sports side of the preparation is just as important when facing the Dakar 2018: **We will be at Teruel for the** Baja Spain in July. I should mention that there will be three or four trucks of the Bonver team for the first tests in a competition.

Obviously, the event in Teruel can be very useful as testing ground so as to draw the first conclusions on the work we're undertaking.

Less than six months until the trip to South America could seem like a fairly long time but as Albert puts it: **The** DAKAR 2018 is drawing close and we can definitely say that we will be in Lima (Peru).

Press Service

