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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Lampkin draws first blood in Indoor Trial World Championship

### *First ever Hong Kong Grand Prix next stop for Lampkin – Raga rivalry*

**Hong Kong, December 4, 2003:** Seven-time World Trial Champion Dougie Lampkin from Great Britain has drawn first blood in the Indoor Trial World Championship (ITWC) 2004 with his circuit victory at the Grand Prix of Monza. In Monza, Lampkin edged last year's Indoor Trial World Champion, Adam Raga, by just one point to take the title in the first of eleven circuit events for 2004. For the first time in the history of the sport, the next stop in the Indoor Trial World Championship will be in Hong Kong at Hall 3 of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre in Wanchai tomorrow night, 5 December, at 8:00pm.

To kick-start the Hong Kong Grand Prix, a special Meet-the-Riders press conference was held today at Times Square. The six riders competing in this year's World Championship (Dougie Lampkin, Adam Raga, Takahisa Fujinami, Marc Freixa, Albert Cabestany and Graham Jarvis) attended the press conference where they also performed some impromptu stunts which delighted the crowd. FIM Trial Commission President, Mr. Ignacio Verneda also attended the press conference along with Ms. Marlene Lee, Regional Managing Director for organisers Octagon Greater China Ltd. and guests from the Hong Kong Automobile Association and the Hong Kong Trial Club.

In the first circuit of this year's World Championship in Monza, Italy, the experienced campaigner Dougie Lampkin was on form, dominating the sections from the beginning, especially on the second or finals lap. In the first or qualification lap, Spanish rider Marc Freixa, a team-mate of Lampkin's on the Montesa-HRC team, achieved the best result despite suffering a spectacular crash in the last observed section of the course, the waterfall. The Spaniard reached 11 points, one less than his team-mate Lampkin, (in FIM securing the least points represents the cleanest ride and determines the winner). After Freixa and Lampkin, Raga secured a place in the final along with Japanese rider Takahisa Fujinami, who finished fourth. Spanish rider Albert Cabestany, Briton Graham Jarvis and Italian guest rider Michelle Orizio failed to qualify.

In the final, Lampkin cleaned the first section (completed the section without any observed faults), while the rest of his rivals fived (maximum fault) it, giving him an edge he would not relinquish. Lampkin now tops the Indoor Trial World Championship with ten points ahead of Raga's eight.



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Excited by the prospect of visiting and competing in Hong Kong for the first time, Dougie Lampkin said: “I think it is fantastic that we are coming to Hong Kong, especially as it is a completely new place for trials sport.”

The Hong Kong Grand Prix will be the last world indoor event before the year’s end. The competition will then break until January 2004, when the Championship returns to Sheffield, England. The Indoor Trial World Championship - Hong Kong Grand Prix will take place tomorrow on Friday evening, 5 December, at 8:00pm, followed by two motorcycle and musical entertainment exhibitions the following day, 6 December, at 2:00pm and 8:00pm. Doors will open one hour before event time to enjoy other displays around the course. Tickets are still available.

Ticket prices have been set at HK\$200 for the FIM Indoor Trial World Championship on 5 December and HK\$120 for each of the unique motorcycle exhibition and entertainment shows on 6 December. A HK\$20 discount will be offered for those purchasing ticket packages for both event days. Tickets are sold through Hong Kong Ticketing and are available from the box offices of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, the Fringe Club, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, the Hong Kong Arts Centre and Tom Lee music stores. Tickets can also be bought on-line at [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com) or by calling the special ticket hotline at 3128 8288.

Sponsors for the Indoor Trial World Championship Hong Kong Grand Prix include the Commercial Radio 2, Harbour City Estates Limited, Inetol Headwear Company, InterContinental Grand Stanford Hotel, Tourism Commission and Times Square Limited. The sponsor of the Indoor Trial World Championship Tour is Freixenet.

For more information on indoor trial, please visit [www.worldtrials.info](http://www.worldtrials.info). For enquiries, please call 2534 5063 or email [hkindoortrial@octagon.com](mailto:hkindoortrial@octagon.com).

### **About Octagon**

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