

December 26th, 2013**A key to countdown!**

A decisive week from an organisational point of view has just come to a close for the Dakar-2014, teams are finishing the last preparations and in few days departing to Argentina. Enormous work on preparation for a marathon which traditionally takes all season and incurs for itself considerable physical and financial expenses, now has to bring long-awaited kickback and results in sports expression! Crews and mechanics are in focus for 100%!

Meanwhile the Euroamerica port in 80 km from Buenos Aires is ready to unload of the race and assistance vehicles which have recently arrived there. Since December 31st participants can already collect the cars and go to Rosario where the Dakar Village will host the race for the first pre-starting days and definitely this place will be visited by more than one million fans from all over the world.

The crew of Vladimir Vasilyev/Vitaliy Yevtekhov is entered in race with 314 starting number on the wheel of MINI and together with the other team-mates of X-Raid they are completely ready to start.

Vladimir Vasilyev: The most difficult week before a departure to Argentina comes to the end – we finish affairs, trainings, preparations. I missed the drive feeling and wants to begin the race in soonest time. The route provided by Organizers, prepares for us a variety of landscapes – both stones and mountain tracks, sands with dunes and "fesh-fesh". In the first half of race technical and fast sections will prevail where I feel myself very good and on these stages I will try to catch the good position and after to keep it in sands and dunes. I am not nervous before the start, we are ready to race.

Vitaliy Yevtekhov: When we returned from Germany training, I really felt that the start of "Dakar" is already very close. Pre-starting expectation and desire to begin race accrues. I can tell that we had very good preparations as in the technical aspects, having densely worked with the car, and on physical program.

More details about Dakar on <http://www.vrtsport.ru/dakar>