

## **Press release**

*SwissBob has been awarded the contract for the production of the monobob by the World Federation (FIBT)*

## **Swiss high-tech revolutionizes bobsleigh**

**Zug/Zurich, 16 May 2014 – The Fédération Internationale de Bobsleigh et de Tobogganing (FIBT) has reached its decision: SwissBob AG will take on production of the standardized monobob, which will also be used at the Youth Olympic Games 2016 in Lillehammer. The high-tech monobob developed together with the Sauber F1 Team and other innovative partners in Switzerland prevailed against international competition.**

A new, revolutionary bob concept – the monobob for a one-man crew – looks set to make bobsleigh more attractive for young people and the next generation of athletes. The FIBT used a tender process to decide on the manufacturer of a standardized monobob, with the goal to introduce a new discipline at the coming Youth Olympic Games 2016 in Lillehammer.

### **Swiss engineering expertise for the future of the bobsleigh**

After Germany, Italy, Latvia, the USA and Switzerland presented their projects in Königssee and Innsbruck, the FIBT chose to put the future of monobob bobsleigh in the hands of SwissBob. Ivo Ferriani, President of the FIBT: "We were impressed by the totality of the concept of the 'Ice Racer'. We are convinced that with the monobob, we can inspire the next generation get more involved in bob sports." The monobob from SwissBob combines Swiss technology in a new, totally unique sporting device. "We are extremely proud to have our monobob awarded the contract for series production," says Peter Tinner of SwissBob. "Our goal is to bring a breath of fresh air to bob sport with a high-performance, safe and affordable monobob."

### **Joining forces to create the standard bob**

To perfect the success of Swiss Bob, it took the dedication of renowned Swiss companies. The elegant monobob was developed, tested and optimized by the Sauber F1 Team in Hinwil - Switzerland. The heart of the "Ice Racer" is a high-precision monocoque, which is produced using the same sandwich design as Formula 1 racing cars. As well as ensuring an extremely high level of safety, this also guarantees a construction that is absolutely uniform, which is important for fair competition with standardized sleds. Monisha Kaltenborn, CEO of Sauber Motorsport AG: "It was an exciting experience to transfer our expertise from motorsport to the ice track." During development the highest priority was placed on safety and the design of sophisticated, efficient aerodynamics, which also give the monobob its attractive look.



SwissBob AG  
Bahnhofplatz  
P.O Box 4010  
6304 Zug  
Switzerland  
[www.swissbob.org](http://www.swissbob.org)  
Tel: +41 41 726 04 89

In addition to the Sauber F1 Team, the Swiss engineering firm Schilling AG is supporting the monobob project: the company designs and manufactures the mechanical parts for the monobob, primarily made of stainless steel to minimize maintenance requirements. Industrial production methods make it possible to create identical monobobs while simultaneously reducing manufacturing costs.

The worldwide known watch manufacturer OMEGA is also a strong partner in the project. Since the introduction of the "OMEGA Monobob Series" in 2011, awareness of the new sport has continued to grow. OMEGA is responsible for precision measurement of race times and is committed to adding even greater excitement and action to the new sport through new technologies and measurement techniques. In addition, the Boston Consulting Group Switzerland (BCG) has been acting as a very supportive partner concerning project management.

### **Monobob – the innovative sports device for one and all**

Identical bob models will be used in future races. With all pilots given a monobob, they only need to take their own personal equipment from competition to competition, greatly reducing transportation costs. The "Sauber Bob" from SwissBob weighs 165 kilogrammes and professional drivers can reach speeds of up to 130 km/h. The "para-kit" allows the monobob to be converted for paraplegic athletes within 15 minutes, providing a new alternative for disabled athletes.

### **About SwissBob AG**

SwissBob is dedicated to the production of the standard monobob – a bob that is driven by just one person – with the goal of leading bobsleigh in a completely new direction. Performance, safety, series production and the ensuing cost efficiency are the crucial factors for the development of the monobob. SwissBob prevailed against international competition in a request for tender from the international World Federation (FIBT) and will exclusively manufacture its monobob for the Youth Olympic Games in 2016. SwissBob's partners are Sauber Motorsport AG ([www.sauberf1team.com](http://www.sauberf1team.com)) and Schilling AG ([www.schillingag.ch](http://www.schillingag.ch)). For more information about SwissBob, please visit [www.swissbob.org](http://www.swissbob.org).

### **Images**

High-resolution images of the SwissBob AG Monobob are available on the FTP server: [www.swissbob.org/press/](http://www.swissbob.org/press/).

### **Photo credits**

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### **Media contact**

SwissBob AG  
Bahnhofplatz  
P.O Box 4010  
6304 Zug  
Tel. +41 41 726 04 89  
Email: [questions@swissbob.org](mailto:questions@swissbob.org)