**Press Report on the 2015 SALOMON 4 TRAILS**

*Two countries – four stages – five towns*

**Start of Registration for the 2015 SALOMON 4 TRAILS**

**Munich, 11 November 2014 - The SALOMON 4 TRAILS are back and the 5th Edition is sure to again be a tremendous event for runners from all over the world. From July 8 to 11, 2015, ambitious trail runners and true pros will cover around 156 km (97 mi) and 10,350 m (33,957 ft) of elevation change on the newly designed course from Berchtesgaden to Maria Alm in four days. The course designers, Stephan Repke and Philipp Reiter, along with the organizers and the destination towns and new hosts are all looking forward to this exciting event and the participants and visitors they will get to meet in just a few months. Registration for this unique multi-stage race is set to begin on 11 November 2014.**

Spectacular trails, high alpine sections and awesome views coupled with the necessary dose of ambition, physical fitness and endurance - those are the ingredients that make the SALOMON 4 TRAILS a unique challenge for every athlete. This year, Gripmaster (Stephan Repke) and Zauberlehrling (Philipp Reiter, the ‘Sorcerer's Apprentice’) will lead runners from all over the world on the course they designed themselves, starting in Berchtesgaden and going to Bad Reichenhall, Ruhpolding and then Lofer and finishing in Maria Alm. In the course of those four days, they will run a distance of 156 km and climb a total of 10,350 m. A highly demanding mammoth program for every participant, both physically and psychologically. But when the popular finisher shirts are handed out during the awards ceremony, all the trials and tribulations of the trail are sure to fade from memory. They will be replaced by vivid memories of eventful days, magnificent trails, and many new friends.

Anika Stephan, Project Manager at the Plan B event company GmbH, raves: “The new course that Grip and Philipp have designed with lots of passion and blood, sweat and tears, has turned the SALOMON 4 TRAILS into something special again for me, and for all the athletes as well, I am sure. And we are so lucky to have SALOMON on board again as the perfect main sponsor! SALOMON's products and expertise will definitely help make this event a great success for everyone.”

**Voices of the hosts and protagonists:**

Stephan Köhl, Manager of Berchtesgadener Land Tourismus GmbH:

“We are proud to have the honor of hosting one of the best outdoor sporting events around. The SALOMON 4 TRAILS are coming to Berchtesgadener Land for their 5th anniversary! We have Philipp Reiter, Paralympic athlete from Bad Reichenhall and this year’s trail designer, to thank for the spectacular course through the fantastic outdoors of our region.”

Gabriella Squarra, Spa Director of Bad Reichenhall:

“I would like to wish the participants many emotional and fulfilling highlights on the tracks of Berchtesgaden’s historic salt workers. Bad Reichenhall offers many different kinds of terrain and terrain profiles, a super challenge for anyone who loves to be active in the outdoors. And, of course, runners can fill their lungs with our famous healthy Alpine air while running. Lots of fun and success!”

Markus Stuckmann, Director of Tourism of Ruhpolding:

“The GORE-TEX® TRANSALPINE-RUN in Ruhpolding has grown into a classic over the past years. It is a special pleasure to now also have the opportunity to be part of the SALOMON 4 TRAILS for the first time in 2015! We wish all of the athletes successful preparation and look forward to celebrating a fantastic trail running event in the Bavarian Alps together with the big SALOMON 4 TRAILS family!”

Bernd Siorpaes, Director of the Salzburger Saalachtal Tourism Association:

“We can barely wait to be part of the 2015 SALOMON 4 TRAILS with Lofer as a destination town for the first time. The whole Salzburger Saalachtal valley is looking forward to this event! The start and the arrivals at the Finish in the historic town center of Lofer will be a special occasion for us and all the participants.”

Franz Bauer, Manager of the Maria Alm Tourism Association:

“We consider it an honor to have Maria Alm be a destination town at the 5th anniversary of this spectacular event. We wish you lots of success in your training and are already counting the days to July 11, 2015 when you will cross the Finish line in the center of Maria Alm and recall the unforgettable impressions you gathered during the race through our spectacular region in the Alps. We look forward to seeing you soon! ’Servus’ from Maria Alm!”

Philipp Reiter, Course Designer:

“Four days to virtually run around the entire Berchtesgaden National Park on magnificent narrow steep paths and trails, concentrate intently on the technical sections, pass by historic sites and be welcomed warmly in the enchanting destination towns after a strenuous day of running, I am looking forward to July, 2015 when the motto will be: ‘Keep on Running!’”

**The 2015 SALOMON 4 TRAILS - facts:**

* Date: July 8 -11, 2015
* 5 destination towns, 4 days, 2 countries
* 6 potential rating categories: Men, Women, Master Men / Master Women (over 40), Senior Master Men / Senior Master Women (over 50)
* Individual & team rating (min. 3)
* Number of participants max. 1,000 runners
* Info at: [www.4-trails.com](http://www.4-trails.com) and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Salomon-4trails/169977133028889