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IL LOMBARDIA: HERE IS THE NEW TRACK GHISALLO DECISIVE AND VILLA VERGANO CLIMB IN THE FINAL

Milan, September 21th, 2011 - The new Il Lombardia track has been presented this morning at the Palazzo della Regione Lombardia in Milan. The great classic of the cycling world, which will be staged on October 15th and, like every year will close the calendar of cycling races organized by RCS Sport, has been revealed in its renovated race track.

Speakers included: Governor of Lombardy Region, Roberto Formigoni, the general manager and head of the cycling events of RCS Sport, Michael Acquarone, the vice director of Rai Sport, Auro Bulbarelli, the chief editor of La Gazzetta dello Sport, Pier Bergonzi, the Mayor Lecco, Virginio Brivio, Lecco, the President of the Comitato Lecchese per il Grande Ciclismo, Elisa Corti.

The general manager and head of the cycling events of RCS Sport, Michael Acquarone said: <<*The Lombardia is one of the five races monument; in 105 years of history, almost all the great champions have won and won back. This means that this race is loved by athletes and fans in the world.*

<<Last year nearly 200 journalists came, more than 70 countries broadcasted in live television the race around the world (with a home reach of 260 million households) from the United States to Japan> Acquarone concluded.

From the heart of the regional capital, the new building of Regione Lombardia, to the the Lungo Lario Isonzo in Lecco.

A total length of 241 km, 5 ascents, the Ghisallo closer to the finish and the new slope (short but grim) Villa Vergano which ends with a look of arrivals. Entering the specific, will be given off at 10.45 in Milan in Via Galvani. The kilometer 0 (official start) will be given to Cormano. Cesano Maderno, Mariano Comense, Monticello Brianza, Villa d'Adda and Caprino Bergamasco to approach the 15.7 km climb to Valcava. So down to Pontida, and supply in the locality of Colle Brianza and Suello. Riders then will proceed to go to Canzo: 13.1 km ascent to the Colma di Sormano. Then Regatola and Bellagio. At this point you will definitely live in the mythical climb of the race: the Madonna del Ghisallo. Then descent to Onno, then Valmadrera. Last climb to Villa Vergano (3.4 km in length) and finish on the Lungo Lario Isonzo in Lecco. Since the end

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of the final climb to the finish line there are only 9 km, 6 of which are declining. A good springboard for those who have the condition to make a difference climbing.

There will be 25 teams at the start (18 ProTour wild card and 7) each composed of 8 riders: Acqua & Sapone, AG2R La Mondiale, Androni Giocattoli CIPI, BMC Racing Team, Colnago CSF Inox, Europcar, Euskaltel - Euskadi, Farnese Vini, Francaise des Jeux, Geox TMC, HTC Highroad, Katusha Team, Lampre ISD, Leopard Trek, Liquigas Cannondale, Team Movistar, Omega Pharma Lotto, Astana, Quick Step, Rabobank, Saxo Bank, Sky Procycling, Team Garmin - Cervelo, Team RadioShack and Vacansoleil - DMC.

Among the members there are: the ruler of the classic of 2011, the Belgian Philippe Gilbert who, remember, has won the last two editions of the Lombardia and is certainly ready to drop the historical set, then the Spaniard Joaquin Rodriguez and Alexandre Vinokourov from Kazakhstan, at the return to racing after a serious injury suffered in the Tour de France.

Among the Italians are: the two Liquigas - Cannondale riders, Ivan Basso and Vincenzo Nibali, the Italian champion, Giovanni Visconti, Michele Scarponi and Damiano Cunego for Lampre ISD, Filippo Pozzato for Team Katusha.

Is expected at the start also the new World Champion (the title will be awarded Sunday, September 25th) and the Swiss champion Fabian Cancellara.

For further information:

RCS Sport cycling press office

c/o Acciari Consulting Milano

Sport Area: Matteo Cavazzuti ph.: +39 348 5838779

Lifestyle Area: Maria Paola Vercesi ph.: +39 393 9054802

E-mail: press.ciclismo@rcssport.it

Web: www.pressroom.rcssport.it

www.ilombardia.it



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