

S C H O O L O F C H A M P I O N S

The Ulldecona rider achieves his third world title with two rounds to go

# ADAM RAGA (GAS GAS TXT 300), INDOOR TRIAL WORLD CHAMPION

## Jeroni Fajardo (GAS GAS) adds his first win in an world indoor trial event

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 13 March 2005.— As foreseen by the most realistic predictions, Adam Raga (GAS GAS TXT 300) has become the Indoor Trial World Champion two rounds before the end of the international season, after finishing second at the tenth valid round of the series, the Trial Indoor de Buenos Aires, held yesterday at the Luna Park stadium in the Argentine capital. With this new title, Adam Raga has confirmed his condition as the undisputed world's number one and a great reference in indoor trials.

But this was not to be the only great piece of news from the Argentine event, as it witnessed the second GAS GAS one-two of this year's indoor season... with Jeroni Fajardo as the winner! The 19-year-old rider from Caldes de Malavella, Girona, won his first ever world round right before his team partner and three-time world champion, in his debut year in the indoor world series.

Fajardo already hinted at his possibilities in the qualifying lap, finishing two points ahead of Fujinami and four before Raga, after the starting-order draw made Adam tackle the sections first. In the final lap, which only these three riders rode, there was a thrilling fight between the two GAS GAS men, but Raga's two fives for Fajardo's single one tipped the balance in favour of Marc Colomer's young pupil. Raga has, with this title, equalled Colomer with three world titles. Fajardo modestly admitted being *«very happy with my win and Adam's world title»*, clearly proving that he is in a continuous learning process.

«I am very proud of what I have achieved so far, I have not been out of the podium since 2003 and I can't ask for anything more, as winning with two rounds to go is something extraordinary, and winning eight rounds is even better. There is a lot of pressure, but I am satisfied because this has not affected me too much and I have been able to ride at ease. I am also very happy for my team, GAS GAS, and my sponsors and everyone who has helped me. Now I expect to offer them more wins in the outdoor championship and to continue improving in every possible way, » said Adam few hours before taking his plane back to Barcelona. Raga has systematically improved his results: 6 wins – 5 consecutive ones – in 2003, the year he collected his first world title, 7 in 2004 – 6 in a row, and 8 so far in 2005, with 7 wins in a row.

### Final standings of the Buenos Aires Indoor Trial

1 - Jeroni Fajardo (Sp/GAS GAS)
2 - Adam Raga (Sp/GAS GAS)
3 - Takahisa Fujinami (J/Montesa)
24 points

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#### Provisional standings of the 2005 Indoor Trial World Championship

1 - Adam Raga (Sp/GAS GAS)	96 points	8 wins, 2 seconds
2 - Albert Cabestany (Sp/Sherco)	72 points	1 win, 6 seconds, 1 third
3 - Jeroni Fajardo (Sp/GAS GAS)	50 points	1 win, 1 second, 1 third
4 - Dougie Lampkin (GB/Montesa)	49 points	1 second, 3 thirds
5 - Takahisa Fujinami (J/Montesa)	48 points	4 thirds

Last valid rounds: Belfast, Ireland (19 March), Ibiza, Spain (27 March)

## ADAM RAGA: THE RAPID CAREER OF A YOUNG CHAMPION

Adam Raga Sans was born in Ulldecona, Tarragona on 6 April 1982. With only six years of age he made his competition debut (1988, Desafío Mecatecno in Martorelles, Spain), and added his first overall win at 13 in 1995, in the children's Catalan Cadet Championship. In 1997 he became the Junior Spanish Championship and two years later he joined the factory GAS GAS team, led by seventime World Champion Jordi Tarrés, starting the manufacturer's School of Champions. From there, this young champion has collected success after success.

## Raga adds his first international titles

His first titles at an international level came in 2000 with the World Junior and European Championships with the GAS GAS-Jordi Tarrés team. In 2001 he won the Trial des Nations for national teams with the Spanish team, was 5th in the World Championship and 4th in the Spanish Championship. In 2002 his push was uncontested: 4th overall in the World Championship, 3rd in the Indoor Trial World Championship – with 1 win – runner-up in the Trial des Nations, runner-up in the Spanish Championship and runner-up in the Spanish Indoor Cup.

The next year, 2003, he achieved his first Indoor Trial World Championship with 6 wins, the runner-up place in the Indoor Trial Spanish Cup, and finished 4th and 5th in the world and Spanish championships respectively. This was to be the turning point in his career: 2004 Indoor Trial World Champion with 7 wins, Trial des Nations Champion, Indoor Trial des Nations Champion, Spanish Trial Champion and Spanish Indoor Trial Champion.

With his third consecutive title in the 2005 Indoor Trial World Championship, with 8 wins so far, the 22-year-old wants to start a new outdoor season in style and with the only aim to equal and, why not, better his results from last year. Raga also is aiming at two other championships he will enter: the Spanish indoor and outdoor championships.

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