**PRESS RELEASE**

Team Zietlow sets third world record in Volkswagen Touareg

***15 October 2014:*** *When long distance driving record holder* ***Rainer Zietlow*** *left the northernmost point in Europe, Nordkapp in Norway on 21 September on route to the southernmost point in Africa, Cape Agulhas, he set a target of covering 17 000 km through 18 countries in under 10 days in the robust VW Touareg.*

Unfortunately, the world record drive attempt was interrupted on 27 September in Iringa, Tanzania after a head-on collision with a local car. Despite a two week delay, the VW Touareg reached its final destination at Cape Agulhas on 11 October. Luckily, Zietlow and his crew of **Marius Biela** and **Mathias Prillwitz** were not injured in the accident.

"Nobody was injured but when we looked at the car, our first thought was that this was the end of our record attempt. Once it was established that the drivetrain was not damaged and that the Touareg could be repaired with Volkswagen genuine parts in Tanzania, a decision was taken to continue the journey to Cape Agulhas in a revised record time,” he recalls.

Zietlow, who also hold the records for the fastest time in a car for the Panamericana Challenge, as well as the world record drive from Melbourne, Australia to St Petersburg in Russia, now also holds the world record drive for covering the northernmost point in Europe to the southernmost point in Africa. Despite the accident in Tanzania, Team Zietlow’s record of 21 days 16 hours and 36 seconds bettered the 1984 record achieved in 28 days. When one discounts the accident repair time, the team completed the nearly 17 000 km distance in only 8 days 10 hours and 26 minutes.

During the preparation for his world record drive attempt in June this year, Zietlow and his team also completed an officially timed drive attempt from Cape Agulhas to Nordkapp in nine days. “We undertook this world record drive attempt to test and ensure that such a record drive was possible. We also wanted to have a back-up plan in case something went wrong during the officially publicised event, which unfortunately happened in Tanzania,” he explains.

Zietlow’s latest world record and his misfortune in Tanzania have proven the robustness of the VW Touareg in overcoming tough challenges in the harsh African terrain. On Wednesday 22 October, Team Zietlow will plant 600 trees in Soweto with the help of Food & Trees for Africa. These trees will make the entire Touareg Cape to Cape project CO2 and climate neutral.

Zietlow’s team relies on the support from its sponsors to achieve its impressive global feats. In order to ensure the highest standards of braking and visibility during this marathon run, global powertrain and vehicle safety technology leader Federal-Mogul equipped the VW Touareg V6 TDI with its range of Ferodo brake pads and Champion wiper blades.

For more information on the Cape-to-Cape challenge visit [www.touareg-capetocape.com](http://www.touareg-capetocape.com)

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**Notes to the editor**

There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za> and click the Federal-Mogul link.

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