

October 17, 2022
For immediate release

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Yokohama Rubber supplying tires to drivers participating in this year's AXCR with support from TOYOTA GAZOO Racing Indonesia and TCD Asia Pacific Indonesia

Tokyo—The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., announced today that it will be supplying tires to Takuma Aoki and Ikuo Hanawa in the upcoming Asia Cross Country Rally 2022 (hereafter, AXCR), Asia's largest cross-country rally, which will be held from November 21 to November 26. The supplied tires will be GEOLANDAR M/T G003 mud-terrain tires for SUVs and pickup trucks. Both drivers are being supported by TOYOTA GAZOO Racing Indonesia and TCD Asia Pacific Indonesia and will be racing in Toyota Fortuner* SUVs for the FORTUNER GEOLANDAR Takuma-GP team.

*A popular frame-type SUV sold mostly in Asia.

The AXCR is an FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile) officially sanctioned rally event, similar to the Dakar Rally. Past AXCR races have taken competitors across diverse terrain, ranging from mountains, jungles, beaches, plantation lands, and race car circuits in many Asian countries. This year's AXCR will be the first in three years as the Covid-19 pandemic cancelled the event in 2020 and 2021. The rally will start on November 21 in Thailand and take drivers across a 1,700km course to the finish line in Cambodia five days later on November 26.

Takuma Aoki is a former motorcycle racer. Paralyzed the waist down from in a crash during a motorcycle race practice run, Takuma took up the challenge of racing four-wheel vehicles and has since been active on the overseas rally circuit. He has participated in AXCR events with Yokohama Rubber's support 13 times since 2007. He finished third in 2011 in a car running on GEOLANDAR tires. More recent top 10 finishes include ninth place in 2016 and a sixth place finish in 2017.

Ikuo Hanawa is a world-class off-road racer representing Japan. Participating with support from Yokohama Rubber, Ikuo captured overall championships in the 2016 and 2018 SMOKIN WHEEL'S OFFROAD GRANDPRIX held in the United States. At the Mint 400, the oldest off-road race in America, Ikuo followed up his third-place Class 7 finish in 2020 with a second-place finish in March this year.

GEOLANDAR M/T G003 tires deliver superior performance on the full range of off-road surfaces over an exceptionally long lifespan. In addition, the tire features a sturdy and aggressive design that enhances the off-road driving sensation. YOKOHAMA's GEOLANDAR tires have demonstrated their superior off-road performance in many races over the years, including a one-two finish in the 4800 class at the 2021 King Shocks Area BFE Beatdown and a first-place finish in the Trick Truck class of the 2021 King Shocks Laughlin Desert Classic—both races held in the United States.

Under Yokohama Rubber's three-year (2021–2023) medium-term management plan, Yokohama Transformation 2023 (YX2023), the consumer tire business aims to maximize the sales ratios of high-value-added YOKOHAMA tires, namely the global flagship ADVAN brand, the GEOLANDAR brand of tires for SUVs and pickup trucks, and various winter tires. YX2023 also positions participation in motorsports activities as crucial to the company's effort to develop new tire technologies that will further strengthen the ADVAN and GEOLANDAR brands. Yokohama Rubber therefore is again participating in a wide variety of motorsports events in Japan and around the globe, from top-category to grassroots events.



Toyota Fortuner Car #1 to be driven by Takuma Aoki



Toyota Fortuner Car #2 to be driven by Ikuo Hanawa