

Press Release



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DSM and KNSB introduce new skinsuit for Olympic short-track speed skaters

Royal DSM N.V. and the Royal Dutch Skating Association (KNSB) are introducing an innovative skinsuit for the Dutch Olympic short-track team. The new suit will be unveiled at the Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver. In collaboration with the KNSB, DSM has developed a lighter and, most importantly, more comfortable suit that offers maximum protection. This innovation forms part of DSM's 'Innovation is our Sport™' program, which focuses on working with and for athletes to develop innovative products in the areas of nutrition and materials.

The new product's secret weapon is the use of Dyneema[®], the world's strongest fiber[™]. By cleverly combining Dyneema[®] with other fibers, DSM's team has created a new skinsuit comprising just a single layer. The suit is lighter than existing skinsuits and its snugger fit makes it exceptionally comfortable.

Thanks to the use of Dyneema[®], the suit feels cool and allows body heat to escape more effectively than suits made from other protective materials. The skaters will benefit enormously from this, since temperatures can reach very high levels in indoor skating rinks. That will certainly be true in the crowded venues for the races at the Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, where the Dutch short-track skaters will be appearing in their new skinsuits.

Short-track skater Annita van Doorn says of her new racing suit :*"The suit feels cooler than other suits. That is a definite advantage in a warmer environment such as we will encounter in Vancouver. It will also be nice to feel well protected with just a single suit, rather than having to wear several layers as before."*

"Through its close cooperation with the KNSB and its unique know-how and expertise in materials, DSM has come up trumps again, this time with a fantastic innovation for the short-track skaters. DSM is helping various Dutch Olympic teams in their preparations for the Winter Games in Vancouver," says Rob van Leen, DSM's Chief Innovation Officer.

As Partner in Sport of NOC* NSF, DSM develops new nutritional products and materials to help the members of the Dutch Olympic Team to perform to the peak of their ability. During the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, TeamNL's bobsled team will be competing in a brand-new bobsled composed of materials from DSM. In the run-up to the Olympic Games in Beijing in 2008, one of the products developed by DSM was a new boat in which the sailors Marcelien de Koning and Lobke Berkhout won a silver medal in the 470 class.

DSM and sports

Sport is about performing at a top level, day in, day out. It is about passion, ambition, the will to win, the constant desire to improve and teamwork. In that respect, sport embodies a number of DSM's core values. Innovation is one of the main spearheads of DSM's strategic course, which involves a focus on Life Sciences and Materials Sciences, and it is equally important in the world of sports: innovations in the fields of nutrition and materials can mean the difference between victory and defeat. DSM has been a 'Partner in Sport' to NOC*NSF since 2001, producing innovations that help top athletes: Innovation is our Sport™. For more information please visit: sports.dsm.com.

DSM – the Life Sciences and Materials Sciences Company

Royal DSM N.V. creates innovative products and services in Life Sciences and Materials Sciences that contribute to the quality of life. DSM's products and services are used globally in a wide range of markets and applications, supporting a healthier, more sustainable and more enjoyable way of life. End markets include human and animal nutrition and health, personal care, pharmaceuticals, automotive, coatings and paint, electrical and electronics, life protection and housing. DSM has annual net sales of EUR 9.3 billion and employs some 23,500 people worldwide. The company is headquartered in the Netherlands, with locations on five continents. DSM is listed on Euronext Amsterdam. More information: www.dsm.com

DSM Corporate Communications
Elvira Luykx
tel. +31 45 5782035
mob. +31 6 51548520
e-mail media.relations@dsm.com

KNSB
Huub Snoep
mob. +31 6 22542818
e-mail h.snoep@knsb.nl