



## PRESS RELEASE

### Week highlights from the Suzuki Nine Knights 2015

**Livigno (ITA), April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – A one of a kind castle-themed setup with five massive features had been carefully carved out of 150,000 m<sup>3</sup> snow as the playground for the Suzuki Nine Knights 2015 in Livigno, Italy. The invited all-star line up consisted of skiers and snowboarders who arrived from all corners of the globe for the week-long session running from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of April. Mottolino Fun Mountain saw riders stomp many personal first tricks and making the most out of the immense feature by working together with film-makers and photographers to document the action at the sunset, heli- and night shoots. The mini ramp placed on a snow cube at 12m high, completed "Il Castello" and saw skaters ride in an unusual setting making for additional stunning visual material.

**VIDEO Week highlights:** [bit.ly/NineKnights15\\_Highlights\\_of\\_the\\_Week](http://bit.ly/NineKnights15_Highlights_of_the_Week)

#### SNOWBOARD

Sven Thorgren was the first to test the 35m beast of a kicker out of the snowboarders and he kept up the momentum all week claiming the peer voted "Ruler of the week" prize, as well as winning the Big Air contests and, stomping his first frontside triple cork 1440. He was stoked on the week naming the helisession as one of his favourite moments and pointing out fellow Swede Tor Lundström's achievements "He was sending it, learning a back triple 14 and new frontside 14". Finn Peetu Piironen was the rider who got the loudest "wow" during the hip session flying higher than the 9.5 meter halberd, while the Belgian duo Sebbe de Buck, who claimed the "Best Style"- title, and Seppe Smits mixed it up with fun combos and handplants on the wallride. Halldór Helgason (ISL), did not fail to show one of his trademark methods and also went head to head in the Monster showdown edit with his fs 540 indy vs. Kevin Backström (SWE) fs 720 tailgrab. ([watch it](#))

#### FREESKI

Jesper Tjäder (SWE) and Christof Schenk (ITA) claimed a shared "Rulers of the week" title, determined by their peers. Jesper upped the ante from last year's huge 55m "death gap" with his super technical "Dream Line" ([watch it here](#)), which included an alley oop double flatspin. Christof charged all week, stomping a triple backflip and throwing down a huge flatspin 450 in the hip session. Big Air contest winner Luca Schuler commented; "I think every rider here used the setup in a creative finding new lines, but one of my absolute highlights was Jesper's double backflip over the big axe!" The various shoots saw many perfectly timed simultaneous double backflips and backflip trains, as well as the youngest participant, the 14-year old Aspen Spora (USA) stomping a backflip on the huge kicker with ease. Nicky Keefer (USA) took home the "Best Style" always tweaking out his tricks to the max.



### **MORE...**

The four invited photographers Alex Papis, Markus 'Fischi' Fischer, Cyrill Müller, and Christoph Schöch snapped away to take exclusive shots from the week as well as partaking in the photo competition. See all the winning shots on [www.nineknights.com](http://www.nineknights.com). Next up is the Suzuki Nine Knights MTB on 31st of August to the 5th of September 2015 in Mottolino, Livigno.

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### **ALL VIDEOS:**

**Big Air Contest Action:** [bit.ly/NineKnights15\\_Contest\\_Highlights](http://bit.ly/NineKnights15_Contest_Highlights)

**GoPro Moment - Five man train:** [bit.ly/NineKnights15\\_5\\_Man\\_Train](http://bit.ly/NineKnights15_5_Man_Train)

**Dual Double Backflip Go Pro Moment:** [bit.ly/GoProMoment\\_NineKnights\\_2015](http://bit.ly/GoProMoment_NineKnights_2015)

**Jesper Tjäder's "Dream Line"** [bit.ly/NineKnights15\\_JesperTjader](http://bit.ly/NineKnights15_JesperTjader)

**GoPro Course Preview:** [GoProCoursePreview\\_9K\\_15](http://GoProCoursePreview_9K_15)

### **Monster Showdown:**

**Schenk vs Wise:** [bit.ly/NineKnights15\\_MonsterMoment\\_David\\_vs\\_Christof](http://bit.ly/NineKnights15_MonsterMoment_David_vs_Christof)

**Helgason vs. Backström:** [bit.ly/MonsterShowdown\\_Halldor\\_vs\\_Kevin](http://bit.ly/MonsterShowdown_Halldor_vs_Kevin)

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#### **About The Distillery and NBH Events**

The Distillery GmbH is a marketing agency and media production house, dedicated towards the active cultures in Europe. Together with our long term partner NBH Events GmbH, we successfully realize the Suzuki Nine Knights / Nine Queens event series since 2008.

#### **About Livigno:**

Sitting right in the heart of the Alps, Livigno is the place to discover new winter sports: In Livigno, telemark skiing is living a second youth, freestyle has grown up and snowboarding found its first fans. Livigno has also hosted several editions of the Burton European Open, a top international event, which turned the resort into a real Mecca of snowboarding during the first years of the new millennium. The snow and ski areas are winter's main attractions as Livigno provides an extensive and modern ski-lift network to its guests. Today, with more than 115 km of slopes Livigno is a perfect choice for everyone, with or without a snowboard, to enjoy snow, shopping and après ski.

For more info visit: [www.livigno.eu](http://www.livigno.eu)

[www.facebook.com/LivignoFeelTheAlps](https://www.facebook.com/LivignoFeelTheAlps)

[twitter.com/Livigno](https://twitter.com/Livigno)

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#### **About Mottolino Fun Mountain:**

Mottolino Fun Mountain is a skiing area of Livigno located in the Italian Alps. It is well known for its prime Snowpark, which has won several awards in Italy in recent years and is rated among the best ones in Europe: covering 120.000 m<sup>2</sup> (more than 30 soccer fields) constructed from more than 170.000 m<sup>3</sup> of snow, it has been chosen by GoPro as a



partner of excellence. Fun is at the bottom of almost any activity, which has led to a great variety over time. Not only has Mottolino hosted the highest music concert in the Italian mountains, the Ice Party, it has also been the home of three editions of the Burton European Open, seven editions of Burn River Jump and many times of the World Rookie Fest. In 2015 Mottolino will host the legendary NINE KNIGHTS freeski event, which will take place already for the fourth time in Italy. The resort will provide enough snow for the shapers to build the massive, enchanted Nine Knights castle, which will remain in the beautiful mountains of the Mottolino skiing resort for a week

Do you want to know more about it?

Check out our brand new webcam on: [www.mottolino.com/info/WebCam.aspx?p=P2](http://www.mottolino.com/info/WebCam.aspx?p=P2)

For more info visit: [www.mottolino.com](http://www.mottolino.com) or [www.facebook.com/MottolinoFunMountain](https://www.facebook.com/MottolinoFunMountain)

#### **About Suzuki**

The Suzuki Motor Corporation is based in the Japanese city of Hamamatsu, and is the world's leading supplier in the minicar segment. In the 2013/2014 business year it produced 2.86 million vehicles worldwide. The Corporation employs 51,503 people globally and sells its products in 196 countries and regions.

In the 2013/14 business year, the company turned over 2.94 billion yen (€20.7 billion\*). With an operating result of around 187.7 billion yen (€1.31 billion\*), the Suzuki Motor Corporation saw a 29.9 percent rise in its profits over the previous year. Global sales amounted to 2.66 million cars in the 2013/14 business year. Suzuki maintains 35 main production facilities in 24 countries and regions.

Suzuki's 'Way of Life!' represents the global brand-attributes of enthusiasm, down-to-earthness, quality, sportiness and team spirit. These values express themselves in innovation, products tailored to customer needs, and an impressive set of core expertises including in the offroad and AWD fields, based on a company history stretching back for more than a century.

Suzuki International Europe GmbH, based in Bensheim, Hessen, controls activities throughout Germany in the three business areas of Cars, Motorbikes and Marine. With its 375 employees, the company generated a turnover of €635.6 million in the 2013/14 business year. A total of 27,835 vehicles were newly registered in the year 2014.

\* Exchange rate on 31 March 2014: €1 = 142.2 yen.