

# Škoda New Zealand and Ben Hunt Motorsport wrap up a winning partnership



**Auckland, New Zealand, 23 January 2026** – Škoda New Zealand and Ben Hunt Motorsport today announce the conclusion of their four year partnership. Since joining forces in 2022, Ben Hunt, co driver Tony Rawstorn, and the team have delivered outstanding performances in the New Zealand Rally Championship, securing multiple championship titles and memorable rally wins that highlighted the capability of the Škoda Fabia Rally2 on some of the country's toughest stages.

As the 2026 season approaches, Ben has made the decision to step back from full-time competition to dedicate more time to his young family. After years of weekends away at rallies and the demands of a national championship schedule, he's looking forward to a new chapter with greater balance between motorsport and family life.

"Since our partnership began, Ben, Tony, and the team have embodied Škoda's core values of passion and performance," said Alex Brown, General Manager of Škoda NZ. "Their achievements have elevated the Škoda brand in New Zealand motorsport and demonstrated what's possible when talent meets engineering excellence."

Ben Hunt reflected on the journey: "Driving the Fabia Rally2 with Škoda NZ has been an incredible experience. We've achieved championship glory, pushed our limits on the stage, and grown stronger together each season. I'd like to thank everyone involved—for their commitment, spirit, and teamwork."

Škoda New Zealand extends heartfelt thanks to Ben, Tony, and everyone at Ben Hunt Motorsport for an extraordinary four-year journey. We wish them all the best for what comes next.

## Further information:

Natalie O'Brien  
Marketing Manager  
P +64 21 246 4542  
[nobrien@skoda.co.nz](mailto:nobrien@skoda.co.nz)

## ŠKODA AUTO

- › is successfully steering through the new decade with the Next Level – Škoda Strategy 2030.
- › aims to be one of the five best-selling brands in Europe by 2030 with an attractive line-up in the entry-level segments and additional e-models.
- › is emerging as the leading European brand in important growth markets such as India or North Africa.
- › currently offers its customers twelve passenger-car series: the Fabia, Rapid, Scala, Octavia and Superb as well as the Kamiq, Karoq, Kodiaq, Enyaq iV, Enyaq Coupé iV, Slavia and Kushaq.
- › delivered over 870,000 vehicles to customers around the world in 2021.
- › has been a member of the Volkswagen Group for 30 years. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world.
- › independently manufactures and develops not only vehicles but also components such as engines and transmissions in association with the Group.
- › operates at three sites in the Czech Republic; has additional production capacity in China, Russia, Slovakia and India primarily through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine with a local partner.
- › employs 45,000 people globally and is active in over 100 markets.