



SMITH CONQUERES 2006 GIRO D'ITALIA WITH "IL TERRIBILE" IVAN BASSO

Padova, May 28, 2006 - A very exciting Giro d'Italia came to a close today, and a great performance at every stage lead to an amazing victory for **IVAN BASSO**.

Twenty-eight year old **IVAN BASSO**, in his seventh season as leader of Danish team **CSC** sponsored by **SMITH OPTICS** was the crowd favourite from the beginning and was backed by a great team. The athlete conquered the 89th edition of the Giro d'Italia with 14 days wearing the winning pink jersey.

The Italian rider dominated the entire race throughout the peninsula, pedalling with an unstoppable rhythm while conquering one stage after the other: **BASSO's** brilliant performance in the races further cemented his position in the overall standing making him the undisputed overall leader until the end of the Giro.

REACTOR MAX" and "**REACTOR D MAX**" sunglasses from the **SMITH** collection were personalized with the **CSC** team colours and were fundamental in the safety and comfort of **IVAN BASSO** during his superb performances and accompanied him throughout each stage.

The quality of **SMITH** sunglasses is guaranteed by the experience and expertise of Safilo Group.

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>REACTOR MAX and REACTOR D MAX

These ultra-sporty sunglasses flaunt a bold wrap design. Made of Grilamid TR90, a material that offers maximum comfort, flexibility and toughness, they are the perfect choice when engaging in sports, no matter what the conditions.

The adjustable nosepieces and endpieces in Megol ensure total comfort, and thanks to TLT™ (Tapered Lens Technology, the tough-as-they-come Carbonic™ lenses) they offer unbeatable optical performance in terms of: resistance to impact and scratches, lightweight construction and protection against UVA, UVB and UVC rays. Equipped with easily interchangeable lenses, this model comes with 2 pairs of additional lenses, guaranteeing superb versatility across the full spectrum of atmospheric and light conditions. The shades, which can be fitted with an optical adapter that allows them to accommodate prescription lenses, are available with smaller lenses in the REACTOR MAX version.

The colours of black gunmetal, smoke, red and black further accentuate the innovative design of this model, making it irresistible to dedicated sports enthusiasts.