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Press Release

Istanbul University Team Rely on Thuraya Solutions to Finish World Solar Challenge

Abu Dhabi, 9th November 2011: Istanbul University, one of the participants during the World Solar Challenge, a 3,000 km race that crosses Australia from the Northern territories city of Darwin to Adelaide, are celebrating their top ten finish amongst a highly competitive field. The team, who were supported by Thuraya, relied heavily on Thuraya IP, the world's smallest satellite broadband solution supporting 384 Kbps data streaming and Thuraya XT, the most reliable satellite handheld with full walk and talk capabilities, for communications.

The Istanbul University Team depended on Thuraya's solutions for the exchange of critical information regarding solar battery levels of the car, speed and weather conditions which helped them to finish the World Solar Challenge. The race is a bi-annual competition with racers from all across the globe taking part in this eco-friendly technology initiative that involves solar powered race cars.

Mr. Murat Altug from the Istanbul Solar Race Team said, "It was an exhilarating experience to take part in the World Solar Challenge but what gave us reassurance and confidence throughout the race was the knowledge that we had access to reliable data and voice communications wherever we were located in Australia via Thuraya's network. We encountered very rough and enduring terrain but both Thuraya IP and the XT handheld functioned perfectly every time. We depended on both solutions for emergency purposes but most importantly the sending of vital data that helped us to monitor our performance throughout the race."

Thuraya IP is the world's smallest and fastest satellite broadband solution that offers 444 Kbps standard IP and 384 streaming IP. It is the only satellite broadband solution with asymmetric streaming enabling consumers to select upload and download speeds ensuring they only pay for the bandwidth they consume.

Thuraya had sponsored the Istanbul University Solar Team in collaboration with their service partner TEKNOMOBIL as part of their continued CSR efforts and dedication to eco-friendly initiatives.

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About Thuraya (www.thuraya.com)

Thuraya is a leading international mobile satellite services operator that provides quality, affordable communication solutions in more than 140 countries across Europe, Africa, Middle East, Asia and Australia. Thuraya's portfolio encompasses data, voice and maritime products and services that support dual GSM and satellite mode and advanced applications, to provide people and businesses with constant connectivity when they need it most. Thuraya specifically designs successful satellite communication solutions for vertical sectors such as energy, media, government, NGOs and maritime.

Thuraya's robust, powerful satellite network enables two-thirds of the globe's population to communicate clearly and effectively in areas underserved by terrestrial networks.

Thuraya was founded in 1997 by a consortium of leading national telecommunications operators and reputed regional and international investment firms, and is the world's leading provider of mobile satellite handhels in its coverage area, with nearly 65% market share.

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