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## **24th Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz, 24 to 27 January 2008 - Best conditions and again top class players in St. Moritz**

*St. Moritz (ots) -*

The 24th Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow is only days away and conditions are almost perfect. It is practically unheard of for the ice to be so thick at this time of year. There is plenty of snow on the lake and work on the infrastructure is pushing ahead at full speed. The four teams competing in this year's Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow bring with them a wealth of experience and new, up-and-coming talent.

This is very welcome news for the organisers of the world's biggest and most prestigious winter polo tournament, particularly coming after last year's problems: a sudden and unexpected period of mild weather seriously delayed construction. But it's not only the conditions on the ground that are, so far, ideal. The entries for the 24th Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow are once again top class.

**Ten-goaler in St. Moritz**

For the first time ever, St. Moritz welcomes a 10-goaler in the person of one of the world's best players, the Argentine polo crack Bartolomé Castagnola. Worldwide, there are only a handful of polo players who have the maximum handicap of +10. This is a high spot in the 24-year history of the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow, and one of which the organizers are particularly proud. "We are immensely excited about "Lolo" Castagnola's participation. It is an honour for us to be able to attract players of his class. It is also a sign that the importance and the appeal of the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow are growing every year", says Sibylle Bitterli, Managing Director of the St. Moritz Polo AG. The four teams competing for the coveted Cartier-Trophy read like a Who's Who of the polo world.

**New grandstand**

If the weather is fine, Lake St. Moritz can expect to welcome more than 20,000 spectators and polo fans over the four days of the tournament from 24 to 27 January. To accommodate and cater for visitors and spectators, the necessary infrastructure has this year been expanded. The VIP area has been extended by 600 m<sup>2</sup> and Gamma Catering will have three catering units instead of just one. For the first time, there will be a lounge with bar, open to all spectators, where visitors can enjoy a relaxed atmosphere and music from Cuba. Another innovation this year is the new central stand.

Further information about the St. Moritz Polo Club and the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow can be found at [www.polostmoritz.com](http://www.polostmoritz.com).

Note: The entire press release can be downloaded in pdf-format under <http://www.presseportal.ch/de/pm/100014271>

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