



### ***PRESS RELEASE***

(Vaughan, ON, January 21, 2013)

## **Clean sweeps for Hayden in Rouyn-Noranda**



Iain Hayden put Team Rockstar Energy Polaris Racing solidly in the Pro Open Mod winner's circle at the International Snowcross Grand Prix this past weekend, which was held in a blustery, bone-chilling Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec, where temperatures felt like -36°C with the wind chill factor.

The defending champ blazed around the icy track on his potent Polaris IQ like a man possessed, putting on a clinic in his qualifiers as well as the finals on both days of the event to record perfect 1-1-1 scores.

Hayden pinned the holeshots of his qualifiers on Saturday, leading the competition unchallenged to the checkered flag both times out. In the final, he had to contend with a

second place start behind Quebec favourite, Dave Allard. This position, however, was parlayed into first place after battling with Ste-Felicien native for just a few laps.

On Sunday, Hayden put on another demonstration of his championships-winning talent by nailing down the holeshots of both qualifiers, as well as the final this time out. He went on to lead the freight train from start to finish. In the final, Allard again pulled out all the stops in front of a home-province crowd, but he was unable to remove Hayden from first place.



“This was the kind of weekend where everything just neatly fell into place. The kind of weekend you dream about. I felt totally in my element, the IQ ran like a charm, and the track was long, challenging, and fast, just the way I like it,” Hayden said.

Hayden’s Pro Open Mod teammate Lee Butler also showed a lot of promise in Saturday’s qualifiers, logging 1-2 finishes. In the final, Butler was the victim of some first turn chaos, taking a hit from another sled that saw him pull off the track to straighten out the damage enough so he could resume the race.



Once back in the fray, coming from behind, Butler sliced and diced his way into a respectable sixth place by the time the checkered flag was waved.

On Sunday, Butler fought tooth-and-nail to score 2-2 results in his qualifiers. A lacklustre start in the final put a damper on any hopes of having a say in the up-front action, however. The former champion still brought his sled home for a fourth place finish.

“The heats went well enough on both days, and I was definitely up for the finals, but some bad luck kept me from racing for a podium finish despite giving it all I had,” Butler said.

Jakob Rosko-Fong had an up and down weekend in the Pro Lite Stock class. He looked good in Saturday's qualifiers, recording 4-1 results. In the final, he got off to an excellent start that saw him running in second place for a number of laps. Unfortunately, a crash off of a jump took him out of contention.

By the time he was able to remount, Rosko-Fong was a hopeless four laps down. Even though he was totally out of reach to finish in the points, he decided to continue the race, taking the checkered flag in 13th place.

In Sunday's showdown, Rosko-Fong won one qualifier and finished sixth in the other. The final proved to be another challenge, however; he ran mostly mid-pack to eventually cross the finish line in ninth place.



"If the finals had gone as well as the heats I would have been a much happier camper, but I just seemed to come up short on both days. My Polaris IQ took some serious pounding on Saturday, but the fact that it was still driveable after my crash says a lot about the machine," Rosko-Fong said.

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