

METRO MARATHON DÜSSELDORF: TITLE SPONSOR EXTENDS CONTRACT BY TWO YEARS

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- METRO AG remains title sponsor until 2021
- Around 600 "METRO Runners" join the race
- METRO Germany acknowledges dedicated work of volunteer helpers

Düsseldorf, 25 April 2019 – METRO AG extended its contract as title sponsor of the METRO Marathon Düsseldorf by another two years. The international retail group with headquarters in Düsseldorf will thus remain a reliable partner of this top running event in the metropolis on the Rhine until the year 2021. Around 20,000 runners are expected to participate in this year's METRO Marathon Düsseldorf scheduled for 28 April 2019, among them also a large number of METRO employees. Some 600 "METRO Runners" from 12 METRO countries have registered for the race of which 70 employees will run the complete marathon distance of 42.195 kilometres and 160 employees will cover the half marathon distance which is offered for the first time.

This year will already be the 15th consecutive time that METRO AG acts as title sponsor of the Düsseldorf Marathon, one of the most popular spring races in Germany. The marathon is also highly popular among METRO's workforce. Some 600 so-called METRO Runners have registered for this top sporting event including almost 100 four-man relay teams. Among the "METRO Runners" we have many international colleagues from countries such as Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Moldova, The Netherlands, Portugal, Romania and Russia. They will travel to Germany on this specific occasion to participate in the race together with their colleagues from Düsseldorf. METRO AG supported its employees working on the Düsseldorf Campus in their preparations for the race: the training programme for the marathon and half marathon runners started in autumn 2018, that for relay runners in January.

The race is expected to attract an audience of some 400,000 people who will cheer on the runners. In addition, more than 40 bands at 20 different locations along the racetrack will motivate both runners and onlookers. Under the motto "Rock die Strecke" (rock the course), the music festival will be hosted for the third time this year offering something to suit every taste in music.

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METRO Germany this year again expressly acknowledges the commitment of all marathon helpers whose volunteer work materially contributes to the smooth operation of this major sporting event. The roughly 1,500 volunteers actively support the marathon and relay runners along the racetrack and in return receive a helper's bag filled with products from the METRO assortment to sustain them during the event. In addition, the wholesale company will support the runners with food to reinvigorate them after crossing the finish line. As another token of thank you to the helpers there will be a big party for the volunteers on 11 May which METRO Germany will support with its food products.

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Further information on the METRO Marathon Düsseldorf:

www.metro-marathon.de/

METRO is a leading international wholesale company with food and non-food assortments that specialises on serving the needs of hotels, restaurants and caterers (HoReCa) as well as independent traders. Around the world, METRO has some 24 million customers who can choose whether to shop in one of the large-format stores, order online and collect their purchases at the store or have them delivered. METRO in addition also supports the competitiveness of entrepreneurs and freelancers with digital solutions and thereby contributes to cultural diversity in retail and hospitality. Sustainability is a key pillar of METRO's business. METRO has been the sector leader in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for the last four years. The company operates in 36 countries and employs some 146,000 people worldwide. In financial year 2017/18, METRO generated sales of €36.5 billion. In September 2018 METRO AG initiated the divestment process for the food retail chain Real with its 34,000 employees.

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