

Finland maintain lead, but Nike close fast

HALTI



Team Finland maintained their lead overnight with a strong inlines skate section and 12hr, 90km ocean kayak to the start of the Svartisen Glacier section. Finland managed to stay in front of Nike who slept at CP24 before arriving at TA8 at Melfjordan. Finland arrived looking very strong and totally focused. Like Finland, Nike spent around 40 minutes in transition before leaving for perhaps the most beautiful section of the race; a mountain trek and glacier glacier section over the Svartisen Glacier deep with in the Svartisen National Park.



The conditions are perfect and team will experience some of the most impressive landscape Norway can offer as teams negotiate the technical glacier climb. With the winning team expected to cross the finish line in Hemavan around 1600 on Monday 21st August, there is little more than 24hours left for teams to chase down Finland. Nike are charging and are chasing Finland hard. Team Lundhags continue to look strong and very comfortable in 3rd place.



ICEBUG



A battle for 4th has developed between Golite Timberland, lead by Kiwi racer Aaron Prince and New Zealand team OrionHealth.com. These teams have been racing almost side by side for the last 30 hours and look set to do so for the remainder of the race. Orion and Golite move up the field at the expense of Aberdeen Asset Management who were forced to retire due to a foot injury. Rounding out the top 5 are Merrell who have charged back after minor foot injuries hampered their trek over the Seven Sisters.



Scandinavian Airlines

With around 24hrs racing remaining until the first team crosses the finish line in Hemavan at approximately 1600, the pace will continue to heat up as teams push hard to make an impression and snatch the lead from Finland in the final stages of the ARWC2006.



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