

PRESS RELEASE

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Boyd Exell wins FEI World Cup Final

Australia's Boyd Exell won the FEI World Cup Driving Final at the Göteborg Horse Show in Sweden last Sunday. This is the ultimate prize on the international Driving circuit.

This is the first time an Australian has been crowned Driving World Cup Champion. It is a proud addition to Australia's 2008 World Cup Eventing victory by Clayton Fredericks at Deauville (FRA) last September. In total there are four Equestrian World Cup "disciplines". The Finals for the other two (Dressage and Jumping) will be held in Las Vegas in April.

37-year-old Exell grew up in Bega on the NSW South Coast but has lived and trained in England since 1993 with his wife Preetha and children James and Olivia.

To win the title Exell beat the two "flying Dutchmen" who have been his greatest rivals for the 2008/09 season, IJsbrand Chardon (who finished in 2nd place) and Koos de Ronde (3rd place).

Exell's team of horses, *Bill*, *Lucky*, *Pascal* and *Eminemz*, has worked hard all season, winning two of the World Cup qualifying competitions Budapest and Geneva, and was 4th at both Stockholm and Leipzig. Peaking at exactly the right time Exell and his team were too good for the competition in the Final.

"I am surprised and delighted at the same time about my win. Before the Final, I was hoping for a top two-three placing. The hardest thing is to win when people expect it; I think I have proven now that I am able to perform under pressure."

"I trained lots of figures of eight the last two weeks. This made my horses go much faster. They have been working hard for me in the past years and I am happy with the feeling I have with them now."

For full report and results see

<http://www.feiworldcup.org/Driving/Pages/news.aspx?newsName=2FEIworldcupdrivingfinalgothenburg.aspx>

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