STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® World Championships come to Stuttgart
Hands on the wood and get your tickets!

Elite lumberjacks from all over the world are coming to Germany: the ninth STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® World Championships are taking place in Stuttgart on 25 and 26 October. More than 100 international athletes will be competing in individual and team contests at the Porsche Arena. Tickets for this top lumber sports event are available now on the Internet at www.easyticket.de.

The 2013 STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® World Championships are taking place in Stuttgart on 25 and 26 October. Over 100 athletes from more than 20 nations will be competing against one another with the axe and saw in individual and team contests. The organizers expect about 10,000 spectators to fill the Porsche Arena for the international season finals of the top-class lumber sport series. Andreas Kroll of in.Stuttgart, responsible for events in the state capital, is looking forward to a great sport spectacle. "We are delighted that Stuttgart is hosting the world's best lumberjacks. Support for sport has always been very big here and we're hoping to see lots of fans at the Porsche Arena."

Tickets for the international STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® season finals are available on the Internet now at www.easyticket.de. Tickets for the team world championships on Friday 25 October and for the individual competition on Saturday 26 October each cost EUR 18 for adults and EUR 12 for children and young people aged under 16 and for seniors over 70. Handling charges and postage are payable in addition to these prices.

About the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS SERIES
The STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® Series consists of six disciplines, three with the axe – Springboard, Standing Block Chop and Underhand Chop – and three with the saw – Stock Saw, Single Buck and Hot Saw. Both team and individual competitions are on the program for Stuttgart. In the team competition on the Friday, two national teams of four athletes each compete against one another in a knock-out system. The teams tackle the
disciplines of Stock Saw, Underhand Chop, Single Buck and Standing Block Chop. In total, more than 20 teams comprising over 100 athletes compete for gold. In the individual competition on Saturday, the world’s top athletes compete against one another in all six disciplines. In each discipline the athlete is awarded points according to the time achieved. The person with the most points at the end of the multi-discipline event becomes the Individual World Champion. At last year’s World Championships in Lillehammer, Norway, New Zealander Jason Wynyard finished top, ahead of athletes from the Czech Republic and Australia. New Zealand also took the lead in the team competition, ahead of the squads from the USA and Australia.

History of timbersports
The history of the first competitions between lumberjacks in Tasmania dates back to about 1870. The first Woodchopping World Championships took place in Latrobe, Tasmania in 1891. From there, timbersports took off around the world, soon taking the USA and Canada by storm. New competitions were devised, the rules were refined and more axe and saw disciplines were added. Nearly all of today’s disciplines derive from traditional forestry activities.

In 1985 STIHL USA decided to sponsor timbersports and promote its professionalization. The chain saw manufacturer joined forces with the American sport channel, ESPN, to launch the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® Series and selected the six most attractive of all the disciplines. The Series reached Europe in 2001. The STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® Series is now established as the top class in lumber sports, with the best athletes, the highest spectator numbers and the biggest media presence. As well as being watched live by some 10,000 people the 2012 World Championships in Lillehammer, Norway, were also seen by several million television viewers via media partner, Eurosport. The World Championships are also shown by a number of other TV stations around the world.
Picture material:

1 + 2 The STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® 2013 World Championships are coming to Stuttgart – and the 2012 German Champion, Robert Ebner, is seen here in action. The making-of picture shows how this shot at Stuttgart’s Television Tower was created. Robert Ebner supports thereby the initiative “Stay open”, which fights for the continuous right of public access to the tower.
The STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® 2013 World Championships take place at Stuttgart's Porsche Arena on 25 and 26 October. The sport whose roots go back to 19th century Australia is thus staging its season finals at the heart of Europe.

Pictures 1-3: STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® Series
Picture 4: State Library of South Australia B 7798/398