

Zurich, October 20 2014

## **Retirement after 20 Years of Mountain Bike Racing**

Dear sponsors, supporters and friends

Now it's official. After 20 years of mountain bike racing the time has come to change up my life and retire from active racing to focus on something totally new. I'm excited to start this new chapter, with some great opportunities/projects and ideas already waiting for me.

- 20 years mountain bike races
- 10 years of World Cup racing
- 14 years of downhill competitions

It all started in spring 1995 when my parents let me ride in a local cross country mountain bike race. Right after that the passion for riding and racing bikes was there. Over the last few years I have competed in 8 different disciplines: BMX, Trial, Cyclocross, Road, Cross Country, Dual Slalom, 4Cross and Downhill.

Some of my career highlights were when I cracked the top10 at the 4cross World Cup in Schladming. Also, my run at the downhill World Cup in Champéry (18th) which got me my best downhill World Cup finish, which shouldn't be forgotten. The bronze medal win at the European Championships in Greece and the winning of different medals at the Swiss National Championships, as well as numerous podium placings was the reward from my constant professional training.

At my final race weekend in Bellwald, Switzerland the other week, I was totally relaxed and enjoyed every single second, because I knew it was going to be my last race run from the hill forever. So then to win both qualifying and the final run on Sunday was just amazing. There could not be a better way to retire than from a race weekend like that. Stoked!

I want to give a big shout out to all of my sponsors and supporters. Also, a huge thank you goes out to my parents and grandparents who have supported me my whole career. Without them I wouldn't be the person that I am today and I couldn't have lived my dream for so many years. Thanks to all of you... I really appreciate your support.

Have a good winter time and see you guys on the trails!

Cheers,

Dominik Gspan

Check out my favourite shots & videos from the last years of racing:

**<http://www.dominikgspan.com>**