



Kawasaki Riders Go 1-2 in 2016 FIM Superbike World Championship and Kawasaki Wins Manufacturers' Award Again!



2016 SUPERBIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

2016 was a remarkable year for Kawasaki and Kawasaki Racing Team (KRT) riders: Jonathan Rea and Tom Sykes rounded it off with a 1-2 finish in the Riders' Championship for the first time, Rea wrapped up a second consecutive Superbike World Championship title, and Kawasaki won the Manufacturers' title for the second year in a row.

In 2016, Kawasaki and its official KRT squad won all the major titles on offer — for riders, manufacturers, and teams. The 1-2 championship for Rea and Sykes was the final piece in the overall winning package for the Ninja ZX-10R. Remarkably, all of this on-track success came in the first year after launching this new model.

With both KRT riders on the podium, their 2016 statistics increased yet again, making happy reading for rider and manufacturer alike. Rea, champion in both 2015 and 2016, has scored nine race wins this year, taken 23 podiums in 26 races, earned two pole positions, and garnered six fastest laps — including the new Losail record of 1'56.974, which he set on lap three. Sykes' latest podium gives him 20 for the season, including five wins. He has also earned eight Superpole wins in 2016 and six fastest laps.

In addition, in the final Manufacturers' Championship standings, Kawasaki has 582 points, 65 more than the nearest rival.



Jonathan Rea (front) and Tom Sykes (back) lean into the curve.

Two Riders Comment



Jonathan Rea

On winning the Superbike World Championship, Jonathan Rea commented, "It is incredible to have won back-to-back championships. I am really happy and proud of our work because this bike was so new. To win in the first year of a new model is incredible and I want to thank Kawasaki for building such a good base bike. It felt like we really had to win the championship this time so I have to thank everybody all around me in the team. I want to thank each and every one of them."



Tom Sykes

Tom Sykes extended "Congratulations to Johnny because two on the bounce is great. He is riding very well and it is credit to the team and Kawasaki Racing. We have come from way back in 2011 and they have been so consistent in the last few years, fighting for world titles. This year I am not the rider to take the title on the Ninja but at least the trophy is staying inside Kawasaki."



Rea (left) and Sykes (right) celebrate the Kawasaki Racing Team winning the WSB Manufacturers' Title at the Jerez Round (Round 12).