

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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The FinishLynx System

Since 1995 Lynx System Developers Inc., a US based company, has been providing the ISU with photo finish results services at Short Track Championships. This five-year relationship has evolved into a "total management service" at ISU World Cups and World Championships. The FinishLynx System is highly innovative technology entirely designed by Lynx System Developers Inc. Today, this system provides complete event formatting at competitions including:

- production and administration of results data
- listing of all participants (Organizing Committee, Officials, athletes and team leaders);
- preparation of preliminary rounds;
- photo-finish results of each race; and
- live real time feed to television, score boards, wide screen TV as well as to the internet (see www.isu.org or www.cyberscoreboard.com)

From the event, FinishLynx System operators set up the framework of the qualifying rounds, the quarter finals, the semi-finals and the final on a computerized program that is consistent with current ISU regulations. As the event progresses the results are entered simultaneously into a database containing results from each competition including athletes' biographies dating back to 1995. Accordingly, this information on ISU Short Track events and on the athletes is made accessible to anyone on the Internet on a real-time basis.

The Finish Lynx system provides constant and very accurate photo finish results as three cameras, linked to a computerized system, are located around the rink. Two cameras are set on opposite sides of the rink, facing each other, and positioned precisely on the finish line. The third camera, serving as a backup system, is placed on top of the camera which is located at the finish line. The Finish Lynx System has been designed so that the primary and backup systems function completely as independent units. Consequently, should any part of the system fail (even the power supply), the photo finish images as well as the results will still all be produced accurately and distributed in real time.

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or please consult the ISU Web pages: www.isu.org