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PAVIC & SOARES CLINCH YEAR-END NO. 1 ATP DOUBLES TEAM RANKING

LONDON — Mate Pavic and Bruno Soares have clinched the year-end No. 1 FedEx ATP Doubles Team Ranking after a strong finish to the 2020 season. Two years ago, Pavic finished in top spot with Oliver Marach, while Soares partnered Jamie Murray in 2016 to become the year-end No. 1 team.

The Croatian-Brazilian team, which completed Group Bob Bryan this week with a 2-1 record at The O2 in London, were assured of year-end No. 1 when Jurgen Melzer and Edouard Roger-Vasselin defeated Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury on Saturday in the semi-finals of the Nitto ATP Finals. Pavic and Soares had come into the season finale just 35 points ahead of second-placed Ram and Salisbury in the FedEx ATP Doubles Team Rankings.

"It's a very special moment for us, finishing year-end No. 1," said Soares. "I think it's a massive achievement and it shows how well we played throughout the year. How consistent we were, winning big tournaments. So it's a special thanks to Mate and our team. It's very nice to start our first day of vacation celebrating a huge achievement like this. Right now, it's time to rest, celebrate and enjoy all the beautiful moments we had on court, because we all know it's been a very tough year for everyone."

Pavic said: "I am very happy for Bruno and myself to end the year No. 1. It was a great partnership, and a good achievement to end the partnership." Pavic will play with Nikola Mektic in 2021, while Soares will reunite with Murray.



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Pavic and Soares, who compiled a 4-5 match record this season prior to the five-month ATP Tour suspension, returned strongly to capture their first Grand Slam championship team trophy in September at the US Open (d. Koolhof/Mektic). They went on to reach two finals in Paris — at Roland Garros (I. to Krawietz/Mies) in October and the Rolex Paris Masters (I. to Auger-Aliassime/Hurkacz) two weeks ago.

ATP Chairman Andrea Gaudenzi said: "The battle for the year-end No. 1 doubles team ranking has been closer than ever this year, with all eight teams entering the season finale with a chance to claim top spot. Our congratulations to Mate and Bruno - finishing the year as No. 1 is the ultimate achievement in our sport. They should be very proud of their season and they fully deserve this accolade."

Melzer and Roger-Vasselin will face Wesley Koolhof and Mektic in the title match of the Nitto ATP Finals on Sunday.

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Media contact:

ATP: Simon Higson, simon.higson@atptour.com

About The ATP

The ATP is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuits — the ATP Tour, the ATP Challenger Tour and the ATP Champions Tour. With 64 tournaments in 30 countries, the ATP Tour showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues. From Australia to Europe and the Americas to Asia, the stars of the 2020 ATP Tour will battle for prestigious titles and FedEx ATP Rankings points at ATP Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, as well as Grand Slams (non-ATP events). The 2020 season launched in January with the inaugural ATP Cup in Australia and will culminate with only the world's top 8 qualified singles players and doubles teams competing for the last title of the season at the Nitto ATP Finals in November. Held at The O2 in London, the event will officially crown the 2020 ATP World No. 1. For more information, please visit <u>www.ATPTour.com</u>.

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