

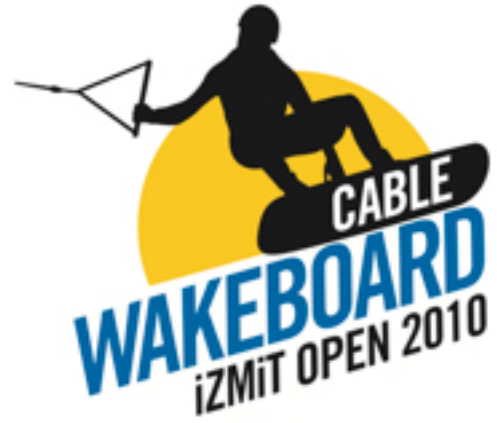
World News: Izmit (Turkey)

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**Izmit welcomes the World's best Wakeboarder**

**The season's highlight for the world's best cablewakeboarder is just around the corner. To get the construction site in Izmit ready for this high-class event in about 2 weeks time the local crew is working eagerly to get the job done.**

From the 16th to 19th of September the place where now machines tar the streets and the mechanics assemble rails onto the tribunes for more than 10.000 spectators will be rushed with adrenalin. Because then about 120 of the world's best wakeboarder will shake the lake. Leading politicians and economists will welcome living wakeboard legends like Nick Davies from England and Maxine Sapulette from the Netherlands during the official opening of the 12th European Championships. Their appearance is a sign for the significance of this ambitious project for local recreation with its Wakepark. In 2008 prime minister Erdogan opened the Wakepark in Bursa as a trigger for following projects in Turkey. When the Gökaypark opens its gates on September 16th it will be the 275th Wakepark and one of the most beautiful and modern worldwide. That makes this park part of a rapid growing sport that has overcome infancy and gains more and more attention. Investors, marketing specialists and sport scientist agree: The future lies in cablewakeboarding. More than 1.5 million € invest made it possible for city of Izmit to make the *Biçkıdere Göleti* lake in Izmit's suburban area accessible for the public. A 7 meter wide, newly made path around the lake and the 800m long cableway leads to the main building featuring two terraces with gastronomy. Izmit created a paradise for families and sportsmen like jogger, biker or inline skater in an area that has not been accessible to the public up until now. This makes Izmit, which is known as an important industrial area near Istanbul, gain relevance as a recreational centre for the whole region.

Izmit will be an important building block for this action and trend-sport in Turkey and in Europe. Since 2008 three wakeparks have been build in Turkey and already next year there are two more projects being started. This makes Turkey the wakeboard mecca in Europe with the fastest growth.

Boardsport fans around the world can look forward to 6 hours live streaming of the event. 8 cameras will deliver fascinating pictures of the live action. Slowmotions on the video-wall will make details visible that the human eye can't catch. With a cash prize of more than 100.000 US Dollar provided by the city of Izmit the Izmit Open will have one of the highest prize money of this season. This alone is reason enough for the best to fight for the World Trophy 2010



The International Waterski and Wakeboard Federation (IWWF) was founded in 1946. The IWWF is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as official partner since 1967. Wakeboarding is part of the World Games (Non Olympic Games patronized by IOC) since 2005. The IWWF has more than 90 Member Nations all over the World and is organizing the Nationals Championships, World Championships and Confederation Championships together with its Federations all over the globe. For more Information and upcoming events please look at [www.iwwfed.com](http://www.iwwfed.com) or [www.cablewakeboard.net](http://www.cablewakeboard.net)

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