



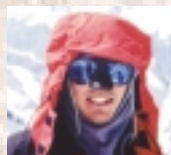
Krzysztof Wielicki



Jacques Olek



Jacek Berbeka



Marcin Kaczkan



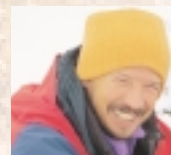
Piotr Morawski



Jerzy Natkanski



Maciej Pawlikowski



Jan Szulc



Dariusz Zaluski



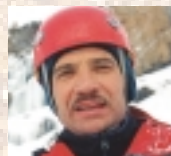
Gia Tortladze



Denis Urubko



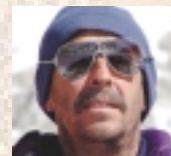
Vasilij Pivtsov



Ilias Thukvatulin



Bogdan Jankowski



Roman Mazik

NETIA K2 POLISH WINTER EXPEDITION 2002 / 2003

In mid-December 2002, an international expedition will set out for Karakorum. It will be headed by Krzysztof Wielicki, the fifth man in the world and the second Pole - after Jerzy Kukuczka – to climb the Crown of Himalayas. – all fourteen mountains over 8.000 meters. Krzysztof Wielicki will be representing Polish Association of Alpinism which ordered the organization of the expedition to COSMOS Entertainment (Katarzyna Cichacka, C.E.O.), the company in charge of fund raising, organization the expedition and creation of an cohesive information campaign in concert with sponsors and media patrons.

With start of this winter expedition to K2 in mid-December, the greatest remaining challenge of modern Himalayan alpinism, 2002 proclaimed THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MOUNTAINS by the United Nations is brought to a close. The Netia

TELEWIZJA POLSKA S.A., the RZECZPOSPOLITA daily and the ONET.PL internet portal are media patrons of this sports and other exploration events.

K2 (8.611 m), the second highest mountain on Earth, is believed to be not only one of the most beautiful eight-thousand meter peaks, but also the most difficult to climb. It is situated on the border separating China from Pakistan, close to the antique Silk Road. The history of its exploration is long and extremely dramatic. Less than 200 persons have reached its summit to date. Nobody has yet managed to climb K2 in winter.

HISTORY OF WINTER K2 EXPLORATION AND EXPEDITIONS

Winter 1984/1985 – First reconnaissance via Baltoro Glacier (Andrzej Zawada/Jacques Olek)

Winter 1987/1988 – First winter K2 expedition from the Pakistani side - Abruzzi ridge (leader: Andrzej Zawada with coleaders: Roger Mear and Jacques Olek). Two teams of that expedition has reached the highest point (7350 m), Wielicki/Cichy, Mear/Gagnon.

Winter 2000 – First reconnaissance of the north side of K2 (Darek Zaluski/Jacques Olek)

Winter 2002 – First winter K2 expedition/north pillar (Leader: Krzysztof Wielicki, deputy leader: Jacques Olek). 16 December 2002 – 15 March 2003. Participants: 25 persons (himalaists, medical personnel, technicians: radio operator, TVP journalists and film makers, as well as a correspondent of “Rzeczpospolita”).