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KUBOT & MELO CLINCH YEAR-END NO. 1 EMIRATES ATP DOUBLES TEAM RANKING



LONDON — Poland's Lukasz Kubot and Brazil's Marcelo Melo have clinched the year-end No. 1 Emirates ATP Doubles Team Ranking for the first time by beating Ivan Dodig and Marcel Granollers in their first match at the Nitto ATP Finals, the season finale held at The O2 in London today.

"I am speechless right now," said Kubot. "I didn't expect that moment. Especially now after this match, but it happened. I am extremely thankful to our coaches and physios, everyone who brought the best out of us."

Melo said, "This year has been amazing for Lukas and I, the first full year we're playing together. Finishing as the No. 1 team in the world means a lot to me. I got to No. 1 individually [in the Emirates ATP Doubles Rankings] in 2015, but this year we played every tournament together as a team to achieve this honour. I'm very proud as my friends,

family and sponsors are here. This is one of the most important points of my life."

Kubot and Melo have captured an ATP World Tour-best six doubles titles in 2017. They won their first Grand Slam at Wimbledon (d. Marach/Pavic), where they earned four wins in five sets, and at three ATP World Tour Masters 1000 events: the Miami Open presented by Itau (d. Monroe/Sock), the Mutua Madrid Open (d. Mahut/Roger-Vasselin) and the Rolex Paris Masters (d. Dodig/Granollers). They also went 14-0 on grass courts with titles at the Ricoh Open in 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Klaasen/Ram), the Gerry Weber Open in Halle (d. Zverev/Zverev) and Wimbledon.

The duo started the season with a 4-5 record, before a run to the BNP Paribas Open final (l. to Klaasen/Ram). They also finished as runners up at the Citi Open in Washington, D.C., and at the Shanghai Rolex Masters (l. to Kontinen/Peers both times).

This is the pair's first full season as a team after one tournament in 2015 and three in 2016.

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About the ATP

The ATP is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuits - the ATP World Tour, the ATP Challenger Tour and the ATP Champions Tour. With 64 tournaments in 31 countries, the ATP World Tour showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues. From Australia to

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Europe and the Americas to Asia, the stars of the 2017 ATP World Tour will battle for prestigious titles and Emirates ATP Rankings points at ATP World Tour Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, as well as Grand Slams (non ATP events). At the end of the season only the world's top 8 qualified singles players and doubles teams will qualify to compete for the last title of the season at the Nitto ATP Finals. Held at The O2 in London, the event will officially crown the 2017 ATP World Tour No. 1 presented by Emirates. For more information, please visit www.ATPWorldTour.com.

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