

Danes celebrate another victory in the U23 edition of Eschborn-Frankfurt

Conrad Haugsted has brought the U23 title at Eschborn-Frankfurt back to Denmark and to Team ColoQuick. The 20-year-old claimed victory in the sprint from a small lead group, finishing ahead of fellow Dane Mads Landbo (Team Give Steel – 2M Cycling Elite) and Britain's Tomos Pattinson (Team Visma | Lease a Bike Development).

"I wasn't immediately sure if I'd won or not – we had to check the footage first," said **Haugsted** after the race. One year ago, he had already impressed by finishing eighth in front of the Alte Oper, where he won the bunch sprint. This time, he was part of a well-organized breakaway of about 20 riders, which had been driven by his team early in the race.

"The pace was high on every climb, but especially on the steep section in Mammolshain our team went full gas to reduce the group – and it worked well. In the end, though, it was still almost like a bunch sprint. I came out of the final corner in first position and just went all out for the last 500 metres." For the young Dane, this was his first international win in the U23 category.

Alongside the full ColoQuick squad, several WorldTour development teams were represented. By the time the riders entered the final 20 kilometres, it was clear that the winner would come from the lead group, whose advantage had grown to over three minutes. ColoQuick tried to capitalise on their numerical strength, launching several attacks in the final phase, but none proved decisive. A crash in the streets of Frankfurt then took down several of their riders, nearly costing them the victory. But by the narrowest of margins, Conrad Haugsted managed to bring it home.

Four of the last five editions have now been won by Danish riders. Only last year, Dutchman Wessel Mouris briefly interrupted the Scandinavian winning streak.