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German Fan Spotted Driving Tractor to World Cup in Russia

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abw.by

Slow and steady wins the race for this German football fan.

Motorists in Belarus spotted a vintage German tractor pulling what looks like a beer van at a steady clip of 30 kilometers per hour, the country's Abw.by auto industry website reported Tuesday.

Its driver, a 70-year-old German man with a dog, hopes to reach FIFA World Cup host Russia within 10 days, an eyewitness who spoke to the driver said. The football tournament kicks off in Moscow on June 14 with a game between Russia and Saudi Arabia.

"His mode of transportation caused delight, surprise and, of course, pity; poor man, the tractor is so slow," a witness named Ksenia told Abw.by.

A wooden trailer "that looks like a beer van but is in fact a house on wheels" is hitched to the tractor, said another motorist named Sergei, who filmed the van crossing the Polish-Belarusian border.

Videos showed the driver hand-cranking the 1920's-era Lanz Bulldog tractor and pulling up at a gas station.

A "Hallo Moskau!" sticker plastered onto his "beer van" evokes the World War II-era "To Berlin!" stickers ubiquitous in modern-day Russia, albeit with a friendlier twist.

"The championship is coming soon, we need to help him get there. The main thing is for his Bulldog [tracotr] to make it," Sergei was quoted as saying.

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