



Audi at the biggest motorsport festival of the year

- **Audi Sport customer racing fights for sixth victory at the Nürburgring 24 Hours with three R8 LMS cars**
- **Four more GT3 sports cars from Audi and ladies team with GT4 on the grid**
- **New touring car Audi RS 3 LMS debuts in FIA WTCR**

Neuburg a. d. Donau, May 28, 2021 – The Nürburgring 24 Hours from June 3 to 6 is one of the most important races of the year for Audi Sport customer racing: With a track length of 25 kilometers, a 24-hour race duration and more than 120 participants, it is the race of superlatives worldwide. Audi Sport has clinched five victories with the R8 LMS at the endurance classic since 2012. At the same time, the legendary Nordschleife is the venue for a demanding baptism of fire this time: The second generation of the Audi RS 3 LMS makes its race debut at the Nürburgring in the WTCR – FIA World Touring Car Cup.

“After narrowly missing our sixth overall victory last year, we now have a new opportunity. We know how demanding this task is in such an excellent field with a total of 34 GT3 race cars,” says Chris Reinke, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. “At the same time, we’re eagerly looking forward to the debut of our new RS 3 LMS in the world’s toughest TCR touring car class.” Team Comtoy from Belgium is preparing the four touring cars for Audi Sport drivers Nathanaël Berthon and Frédéric Vervisch as well as privateers Tom Coronel and Gilles Magnus. Vervisch from Belgium has already claimed two victories in the FIA WTCR in 2018 and 2019. Frenchman Berthon and Dutch touring car legend Coronel each won a race in this series last season while Belgian rookie driver Magnus secured the rookie title there last year – all of them in each case with the first-generation Audi RS 3 LMS. The successor model presented in February has completed around 5,000 test kilometers so far. At the Nürburgring, the Audi RS 3 LMS will face 18 competitors representing four other brands for the first time.

In the 24-hour race, Audi will be competing with a driver squad that is proven of winning and extremely experienced teams. With Christopher Haase, Kelvin van der Linde, Christopher Mies, Nico Müller, René Rast, Frank Stippler, Dries Vanthoor, Frédéric Vervisch and Markus Winkelhock, no less than nine of the twelve drivers in the three Audi Sport customer racing cockpits are former overall winners of this race – Rast also brings three DTM titles with him. Mattia Drudi, Robin Frijns and Patric Niederhauser complete this line-up. The trophy cabinets of the three teams are also well filled: Phoenix Racing has already won the classic three times with Audi and two more times before that, Land-Motorsport was victorious in 2017, and Car Collection Motorsport was third in the Eifel in 2019 and second in 2020.

Five more privately entered GT sports cars complete the line-up of the four rings. Phoenix Racing is fielding two R8 LMS cars. Audi Sport driver Dennis Marschall, among others, will be in the cockpit of the number 5 car competing for the Pro-Am classification, while Audi Sport driver Frank Stippler will additionally be on the grid in the number 11 car. Similarly, Patric Niederhauser will be driving a second race car from Car Collection Motorsport in the Pro-Am



class. In addition, Peter Schmidt's team will bring another R8 LMS to the grid. All these race cars will be competing in GT3 specification.

Last year, the Giti Tire Motorsport by WS Racing team won the SP8 class for the first time with an Audi R8 LMS GT4. This year, the black and yellow race car with the number 53 starts in a special project: With the experienced female endurance drivers Carrie Schreiner and Célia Martin as well as the former Indy Car driver Pippa Mann and the two-time IMSA champion Christina Nielsen, four ladies share the work in the cockpit. Likewise, the entire rest of the team is female, from the mechanics to the team management.

They are all eagerly awaiting the start of the race on June 5 at 3:30 pm. The TV station RTL Nitro will broadcast the race in full, and there will also be a livestream from the organizers. On its social media channels, Audi Sport will be focusing its coverage on various aspects of the race so that fans from home can immerse themselves in the racing world again this year.

Audi at the Nürburgring

WTCR – FIA World Touring Car Cup 2021

Audi RS 3 LMS #16 (Comtoyout Team Audi Sport), Gilles Magnus (B)

Audi RS 3 LMS #17 (Comtoyout DHL Team Audi Sport), Nathanaël Berthon (F)

Audi RS 3 LMS #22 (Comtoyout Team Audi Sport), Frédéric Vervisch (B)

Audi RS 3 LMS #32 (Comtoyout DHL Team Audi Sport), Tom Coronel (NL)

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Audi R8 LMS #2 (Audi Sport Team Car Collection),
Christopher Haase/Nico Müller/Patric Niederhauser/Markus Winkelhock (D/CH/CH/D)

Audi R8 LMS #15 (Audi Sport Team Phoenix),
Mattia Drudi/Robin Frijns/Frank Stippler/Dries Vanthoor (I/NL/D/B)

Audi R8 LMS #29 (Audi Sport Team Land),
Kelvin van der Linde/Christopher Mies/René Rast/Frédéric Vervisch (ZA/D/D/B)

Audi R8 LMS #5 (Phoenix Racing),
Max Hofer/Vincent Kolb/Dennis Marschall/Jan Erik Slooten (A/D/D/D)

Audi R8 LMS #11 (Phoenix Racing),
Michele Beretta/Kim-Luis Schramm/Frank Stippler/Nicki Thiim (I/D/D/DK)

Audi R8 LMS #12 (Lionspeed by Car Collection Motorsport),
Jean-Louis Hertenstein/Klaus Koch/Fidel Leib/Johannes Stengel (CH/D/D/D)

Audi R8 LMS #24 (Lionspeed by Car Collection Motorsport),



Milan Dontje/Patrick Kolb/Patric Niederhauser/Lorenzo Rocco di Torrepadula (NL/D/CH/I)

Audi R8 LMS #53 (Giti Tire Motorsport by WS Racing),
Pippa Mann/Célia Martin/Christina Nielsen/Carrie Schreiner (GB/F/DK/D)

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In 2020, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.693 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 7,430 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 48,042 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2020 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €50.0 billion and an operating profit before special items of €2.7 billion. At present, 87,000 people work for the company all over the world, 60,000 of them in Germany. With new models, innovative mobility offerings and other attractive services, Audi is becoming a provider of sustainable, individual premium mobility.
