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Audi: “King of Endurance Racing”

- **Five international endurance race winners united for the first time**
- **Almost halfway around the earth with R18 e-tron quattro and R8 LMS**

Ingolstadt, November 29, 2012 – Audi unites its endurance race winning quintet. Five Audi race cars that from Bathurst to Le Mans won four 24-hour races plus a 12-hour race in the 2012 season came together for the first time at a photo shoot.

The class meeting of the 2012 endurance race winners saw the united innovation, powerful performance and maximum efficiency of five race cars from Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm. Combined, the four Audi R8 LMS cars and the Le Mans winning R18 e-tron quattro had gone almost halfway around the globe. In five racing commitments, at Bathurst (Australia), Le Mans (France), the Nürburgring (Germany), Zolder and Spa (both in Belgium), they covered an overall distance of 17,767.898 kilometers, which corresponds to around 44 percent of the circumference of the earth at the equator. Added to this are the successes achieved in the new FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) with four more victories besides Le Mans, plus the drivers' and manufacturers' title wins.

At Audi, all endurance racing competitions are centered on technology – a combination of high speed and maximum efficiency. Audi has achieved this aim with two highly different race cars: The R18 e-tron quattro, with its innovative hybrid drive, competes in top-caliber racing. Its concept stands for four top-flight achievements:

- The eleventh victory of the brand at the Le Mans 24 Hours
- The first victory of a sports car with hybrid drive
- The FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) win and
- A ten-percent reduction of fuel consumption compared to its predecessor

The R18 e-tron quattro delivered 100 percent reliability, without a single retirement in the 2012 season.



The Audi R8 LMS demonstrates “Vorsprung durch Technik” as well. The ultra version launched in 2012 has become even lighter, faster and more efficient. In achieving these new levels, the GT3 race car profits from its solid genes. More than 50 percent of the car designed for customer racing is based on the Audi R8 production model.

The grand victories in 2012 endurance racing

Race	Vehicle	Drivers	Distance (km)
Bathurst 12 Hours	Audi R8 LMS	Christer Jöns/Christopher Mies/ Darryl O’Young	1,677.510
Nürburgring 24 Hours	Audi R8 LMS ultra	Marc Basseng/Christopher Haase/ Frank Stippler/Markus Winkelhock	3,933.590
Le Mans 24 Hours	Audi R18 e-tron quattro	Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/ Benoît Tréluyer	5,151.762
Spa 24 Hours	Audi R8 LMS ultra	Andrea Piccini/René Rast/ Frank Stippler	3,565.036
Zolder 24 Hours	Audi R8 LMS ultra	Marco Bonanomi/Anthony Kumpen/ Edward Sandström/Laurens Vanthoor	3,440.000

FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC)

Title win Manufacturers’ Championship

Title win Drivers’ Championship (Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/Benoît Tréluyer)

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The Audi Group delivered 1,302,659 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2011. In 2011, the Company posted revenue of €44.1 billion and an operating profit of €5.3 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). The Audi Q7 is built in Bratislava (Slovakia). In November 2012, CKD production of the Audi Q7 was added to the existing Audi A4, A6 and Q5 manufacturing operations in Aurangabad (India). At the Brussels plant, production of the Audi A1 has been running since 2010, while production of the new A1 Sportback began in 2012. The Audi Q3 has been built in Martorell (Spain) since June 2011. The Company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include amongst others AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft. (Győr/Hungary), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese/Italy), AUDI BRUSSELS S.A./N.V. (Brussels/Belgium), quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm and the sports bike manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna/Italy). Audi currently employs around 65,000 people worldwide, including over 48,000 in Germany. Between 2012 and 2016 the brand with the four rings is planning to invest a total of €13 billion – mainly in new products and the extension of production capacities – in order to sustain the Company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" claim. Audi is currently expanding its site in Győr (Hungary) and will start production in Foshan (China) in late 2013 and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) from 2016.

Audi has long been fulfilling its social responsibility on many levels – with the aim of making the future worth living for generations to come. The basis for Audi's lasting success is therefore formed by environmental protection, the conservation of resources, international competitiveness and a forward-looking human resources policy. One example of AUDI AG's commitment to environmental issues is the Audi Environmental Foundation. Within the context of "Vorsprung durch Technik," which extends far beyond its products, the Company is directing its activities toward a major goal – comprehensive CO₂-neutral mobility.