



Communications Motorsport

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Audi “legends” to compete at the Nürburgring

- **First test race of new Audi R8 LMS**
- **Biela, Pirro and Stuck at VLN opener**
- **Kick-off for Audi customer sport program**

Ingolstadt/Nürburg – Three drivers, who have made a major contribution to AUDI AG’s successful motorsport history, will be honored in a special way next weekend: in the new Audi R8 LMS’s first test race, the former Audi “factory” drivers Frank Biela (Germany), Emanuele Pirro (Italy) and Hans-Joachim Stuck (Austria) will take the wheel of the GT3 sports car powered by more than 500 hp.

Biela, Pirro and Stuck will contest the “ADAC Westfalenfahrt,” the season opener of the BFGoodrich Langstreckenmeisterschaft Nürburgring (VLN) on the legendary Nürburgring-Nordschleife on Saturday, April 4, for Team Phoenix Racing.

Frank Biela (44) was an Audi factory driver from 1991 to 2008. In his first year with Audi, the German clinched the title in the German Touring Car Championship (DTM) in the Audi V8 quattro straight away and celebrated numerous other successes with Audi over the past 18 years, including five victories at the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

Emanuele Pirro (47) drove for Audi from 1994 to 2008. The Italian won several touring car titles and, together with Frank Biela, also won the 24 Hours of Le Mans five times. Pirro clinched a total of nine podium positions at Le Mans.

Hans-Joachim Stuck (58) competed for Audi from 1988 to 1995. His biggest exploit in the service of the brand with the four rings was winning the 1990



German Touring Car Championship in the Audi V8 quattro. Since January 2008, Stuck has been the Volkswagen Group's Representative for Motorsport.

The first test run in racing conditions marks the beginning of the next stage of the new Audi R8 LMS's development. "Our three legends have a lot of experience and will provide us with important feedback for the continuing development of our new GT3 vehicle for the customer sport program," says Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. "We want to learn as much as possible. Therefore, the outcome of the race tends to be of lesser importance."

The race starts on Saturday at 12 (noon) and covers a distance of four hours.

- Ends -

Photographs and information available at www.audi-motorsport.info

AUDI AG sold a total of 1,003,469 cars in 2008 and thus achieved its 13th consecutive record year. The Company posted new record figures with revenue of €34.2 billion and profit before tax of €3.2 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). Aurangabad in India saw the start of CKD production of the Audi A6 at the end of 2007 and of the Audi A4 in early October 2008. The Company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include Automobili Lamborghini Holding S.p.A. in Sant'Agata Bolognese (Italy) and quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm. Audi currently employs around 58,000 people worldwide, including 46,500 in Germany. The brand with the four rings invests around €2 billion each year in order to sustain the company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" slogan. Audi plans to significantly increase the number of models in its portfolio by 2015 to 40. The AUDI brand celebrates its 100th birthday in 2009. The company was founded by August Horch in Zwickau on July 16, 1909; he named it AUDI after the Latin translation of his surname ("hark!").