



**Communications**

**Audi Sport customer racing**

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## **Audi Sport with eleven cars in Spa 24 Hours**

- **Six teams to put eleven Audi R8 LMS on the grid**
- **Last year's winners to race again for Audi Sport Team Saintéloc**

**Neuburg a. d. Donau, June 13, 2018 – The Spa 24 Hours from July 26 to 29, 2018 is marked by two anniversaries: While Audi Sport customer racing celebrates its tenth season the 70th running of the iconic endurance race in the Ardennes attracts a high-caliber field. With eleven Audi R8 LMS cars Audi Sport customer racing will be battling for the fifth overall victory and class wins together with its customers in the anniversary edition of the Spa 24 Hours. Some 60 race cars from twelve marques represent the largest worldwide GT3 field.**

Audi Sport customer racing is supporting Teams WRT and Saintéloc this year. Last year's winners, Christopher Haase and Markus Winkelhock, are again competing with Audi Sport Team Saintéloc. The two Germans are supported by a third Audi Sport driver, Belgian Frédéric Verwilt. In Audi Sport Team WRT, three Audi factory drivers from the DTM, René Rast (D), Nico Müller (CH) and Robin Frijns (NL), are sharing a cockpit. In a second Audi R8 LMS of the Belgian team, the two Audi Sport drivers Dries Vanthoor (B) and Christopher Mies (D) will contest the event together with Spaniard Alex Riberas. This driver trio is leading the Blancpain GT Series Endurance Cup standings after three of five rounds. Swiss Audi factory driver Marcel Fässler will enter the race in a privately fielded third Audi of the WRT racing team that will additionally enter a fourth R8 LMS. Six other private Audi R8 LMS cars complete the lineup. Saintéloc Racing will be battling for class victory in the AM category with one car. Montaplast by Land-Motorsport relies on South African Audi Sport driver Kelvin van der Linde, among others. In Team Attempto Racing, Audi DTM driver Jamie Green (GB) and Audi Sport driver Pierre Kaffer will be racing in two different cars. Team Car Collection Motorsport, in Audi Sport driver Frank Stippler, has the 2012 winner on board. Furthermore, Aust Motorsport is planning to enter an Audi R8 LMS. Whereas Audi Sport has won the classic event four times since 2011 the drivers from Audi Sport customer racing combined have previously scored three victories. In addition, there are the two victories clinched by René Rast plus one success by Marcel Fässler.

The Spa 24 Hours as round four of five is part of the Blancpain GT Series Endurance Cup. At the same time, the event is the second of four events of the Intercontinental GT Challenge which Audi, following victory at the opener in Australia, is leading with Robin Frijns, Dries Vanthoor and British privateer Stuart Leonard. "Spa this year has all the ingredients of becoming the biggest GT race of the year," says Chris Reinke, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. "For four days, international GT racing and its outstanding audience are going to focus their attention on



Belgium. We're hoping to deliver a tremendous motorsport weekend to the many fans and to be battling for overall victory, class wins and the Coupe du Roi for the best manufacturer."

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The Audi Group, with its brands Audi, Ducati and Lamborghini, is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium segment. It is present in more than 100 markets worldwide and produces at 16 locations in twelve countries. 100 percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include Audi Sport GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy).

In 2017, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.878 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,815 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 55,900 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2017 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €60.1 billion and an operating profit of €5.1 billion. At present, approximately 90,000 people work for the company all over the world, more than 60,000 of them in Germany. Audi focuses on sustainable products and technologies for the future of mobility.