

Communications Motorsport

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Audi takes lead at Le Mans

- **With consistency and efficiency to the top of the field**
- **Capello/Kristensen/McNish in first position after 3 hours**
- **All three Audi R10 TDI prototypes in the Top Five**

Ingolstadt/Le Mans – With consistency and efficiency Audi has taken the lead during the third hour of the Le Mans 24-Hour race. At 6 p.m., the #2 Audi R10 TDI driven by Dindo Capello, Tom Kristensen and Allan McNish held a 35.7-second lead of the second placed Peugeot.

The Peugeots were setting the faster times in the opening stages of the race. During the first three hours, however, the Audi R10 TDI cars were increasing their pace. Also, they were able to stretch out twelve laps of a tank of Shell V-Power Diesel while the competition had to stop one lap earlier every time – another proof for the efficiency and the low fuel consumption of the Audi TDI technology.

As usual, Audi Sport Team Joest showed perfect pit-stops allowing Allan McNish to take the lead for the first time shortly after 5 p.m. The Scotsman completed four stints in a row before handing over the R10 TDI to Dindo Capello after 2:45 hours.

Lucas Luhr stayed as long at the wheel of the Audi R10 TDI with starting number 3 which was running in fourth position at 6 p.m. On the #1 Audi R10 TDI, the front bodywork had to be changed at the third pit stop. Despite that, last year's winners were able to improve from seventh on the grid to position five.

Photographs and information can be obtained at www.audi-motorsport.info



AUDI AG sold a total of 964,151 cars in 2007 and thus achieved its twelfth consecutive record year. With revenue of €33,617 million and profit before tax of €2,915 million, the company attained its best figures ever. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). At the end of 2007, production of the Audi A6 started in Aurangabad, India. 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 employs about 54,000 people worldwide, including 45,000 in Germany. The brand with the four rings invests more than €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, from the 26 currently on offer to 40.