

## **Jonathan Wheatley will be Team Principal of the future Audi F1 factory team**

- **Audi secures a further top-ranking expert for its ambitious Formula 1 project**
- **Mattia Binotto and Jonathan Wheatley to become the two leaders of the management team at Sauber Motorsport AG**
- **Audi CEO Gernot Döllner: “Experience and ability will help us to get a foothold quickly in the tough competitive world of Formula 1.”**

**Ingolstadt, August 1, 2024 – Only a few days after the realignment of the management team for the future Audi F1 factory team with the appointment of Mattia Binotto, the next step has now been taken. With Jonathan Wheatley, Audi has acquired the services of a further top-ranking expert for its ambitious F1 project. “I am delighted that we have been able to gain Jonathan Wheatley as Team Principal for our future Formula 1 team,” says Gernot Döllner, CEO of AUDI AG. “Jonathan has played a major part in many Formula One race victories and World Championship titles in his Formula 1 career so far, and has extensive experience in the paddock. He is a very valuable addition to our team.”**

Jonathan Wheatley’s career in Formula 1 started back in the early 1990s at Benetton Formula One, where he rose to become chief mechanic. He then moved to the newly founded Red Bull Racing team, where he has been very successful as Sporting Director. In his time at Red Bull Racing, Wheatley has been involved in winning all six constructor’s and seven Driver’s World Championships.

Mattia Binotto and Jonathan Wheatley will together head the new management team at Sauber Motorsport AG. In their new positions, both will report directly to Gernot Döllner in his role as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sauber Motorsport AG. They will jointly take responsibility for the success of the racing team. There is a clear division of duties, and responsibilities have been individually defined.

As COO and CTO, Mattia Binotto takes over the operative management of Sauber Motorsport AG at the site in Hinwil and the technical development of the future racing cars. In this role he is the overall technical interface between the development teams in Hinwil and Audi Formula Racing GmbH at the Audi site in Neuburg an der Donau, which is responsible for development of the power unit.

By July 2025 at the latest – Jonathan Wheatley will complete Audi’s new management team for Formula 1 in the role of Team Principal and management spokesperson. He will focus above all on the racing performance of the future F1 factory team, on operational management of all race events, and on representing Audi at Team-Principal level in matters relating to Formula 1.

The decision in favor of a dual management team is part of the realignment of the control structure of the future factory team in the context of the full takeover of all shares in the Sauber Group by Audi. “With the appointment of Jonathan and Mattia we have taken a decisive step towards our entry into Formula 1,” says Gernot Döllner. “I am convinced that with the two of them, we have been able to combine an extremely high level of competence for Audi. Their experience and their ability will help us to get a foothold quickly in the tough competitive world of Formula 1.”

Jonathan Wheatley, the future Team Principal of the Audi F1 factory team says, “I am extremely proud to have been a part of the Red Bull Racing journey over the last eighteen years and will leave with many fond memories. However, the opportunity to play an active part in Audi’s entry into Formula 1 as head of a factory team is a uniquely exciting prospect, and I am looking forward to the challenge. Also I am glad to be working together with Mattia, whom I have known for many years and who is the right person to collaborate with in this exciting project.”

Mattia Binotto, COO and CTO of Sauber Motorsport AG, says “I have known Jonathan for many years and rate him highly as an experienced and committed motorsport expert. 2026 is not a long time away now, and I’m looking forward to setting up the new racing team for Audi along with Jonathan and leading it to success.”

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In 2023, the Audi Group delivered 1.9 million Audi vehicles, 13,560 Bentley vehicles, 10,112 Lamborghini vehicles, and 58,224 Ducati motorcycles to customers. In the 2023 fiscal year, Audi Group achieved a total revenue of €69.9 billion and an operating profit of €6.3 billion. Worldwide, an annual average of more than 87,000 people worked for the Audi Group in 2023, more than 53,000 of them at AUDI AG in Germany. With its attractive brands and numerous new models, the group is systematically pursuing its path toward becoming a provider of sustainable, fully networked premium mobility.

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