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## **Mattias Ekström injured in sports accident**

- **Left-hand wrist broken**
- **Participation in “Vasaloppet” cross country skiing event cancelled**

**Ingolstadt, February 18, 2011 – Audi factory driver Mattias Ekström (32) has broken his left-hand wrist in a sports accident. The Swede must therefore cancel his participation at the beginning of March in the famous “Vasaloppet.” His rehabilitation program should be concluded in time to start the 2011 DTM season on May 1.**

Déjà vu: A year ago Le Mans record winner Tom Kristensen tore the Achilles tendon on his left foot while playing tennis with his son. Now Mattias Ekström: In the training camp the Audi driver fell so awkwardly while playing volleyball with his team mates that he broke his left-hand wrist.

As a consequence Ekström, whose partner Heidi is expecting a child in April, now faces a race against time. The Swede aims to be fully fit again in time for the start of the season on May 1. “Mattias must wear a cast for about four weeks, afterwards he can start training again to build up the muscles,” explains Audi team physician Dr. Christian John who provided medical care immediately after the accident. “We all hope that he recovers well and Mattias can line-up on the grid at Hockenheim.”

“We wish Mattias all the best and a rapid recovery,” says Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. “I’m convinced that he will do everything possible to be absolutely ready to go for Hockenheim. We’ll give all the support he requires in the process.”



The Audi Group sold around 1,092,400 cars of the Audi brand in 2010. The Company posted revenue of €29.8 billion and an operating profit of €1.6 billion in 2009. 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, of the Audi A4 in early October 2008 and of the Audi Q5 in July 2010. Production of the new Audi A1 has been running at the Brussels plant since May 2010. The Company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft., Automobili Lamborghini Holding S.p.A. in Sant'Agata Bolognese (Italy) and quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm. Audi currently employs around 60,000 people worldwide, including around 46,600 in Germany. Between 2011 and 2015 the brand with the four rings is planning to invest around €11.6 billion, mainly in new products, in order to sustain the Company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" slogan. By 2015, Audi plans to increase the number of models in its portfolio to 42. AUDI AG will present the full results for the 2010 fiscal year at its Annual Press Conference on March 8, 2011.

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.