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## **Seven Audi R8 LMS ultra cars on ADAC GT Masters grid**

- **Audi brand has largest number of cars in field of 25**
- **C. Abt Racing competes with Kelvin van der Linde as title defender**
- **Live coverage of all races on SPORT1**

**Ingolstadt, April 21, 2015 – With a field made up of eight automotive brands, the ADAC GT Masters is one of the world’s strongest national GT3 championships. This weekend, the new season of the high-caliber GT racing series will open at Oschersleben. Four customer teams will be putting a total of seven Audi R8 LMS ultra cars on the grid – no other manufacturer has as many cars in the field as Audi.**

The title winner is returning: Kelvin van der Linde, who in 2014 immediately won the ADAC GT Masters drivers’ championship, is staying with the privateer team C. Abt Racing in the new season. After his previous team-mate René Rast has switched to Audi’s WEC driver squad, the 18-year-old South African is now sharing a cockpit with a young Bavarian talent: 19-year-old Stefan Wackerbauer from Landshut. Wackerbauer is set on showing that he deserves sitting in car number ‘1.’”

“Kelvin’s title win has made him even stronger and Stefan has greatly impressed me with his on-track performances as well,” says Team Director Christian Abt, who won the title in the series himself in 2009. “Thanks to the support of our partners we’re fielding two more Audi R8 LMS ultra cars with good driver pairings. Cars number ‘1,’ ‘2’ and ‘3’ are the dream of any team boss, as well as a serious commitment. It’s a tough competition.”

kfzteile24 MS Racing Team from Waldshut-Tiengen is fielding two GT3 sports cars with the four rings. The squad of Team Director Harald Böttner was the 2012 winner of the ADAC GT Masters and is now relying on Audi for the third consecutive time. Regular driver Florian Stoll is sharing the cockpit with former GT1 World Champion Marc Basseng; Daniel Dobitsch from Austria is competing together with the Swede Edward Sandström in the sister car.



Two other teams are each fielding an Audi R8 LMS ultra. Like last year, Team Yaco Racing from Plauen headed by Team Director Uwe Geipel relies on the driver pairing Philip Geipel and Rahel Frey. Dupré Engineering Motorsport from Schiffweiler is contesting its first full season in the ADAC GT Masters. The team of Claus Dupré based in the Saarland looks back on a decade-long association with Audi in customer racing.

Two drivers are again sharing a cockpit in the ADAC GT Masters this season. Two one-hour races with pit stops and driver changes are held per weekend. Eight sports car models – Audi, Bentley, BMW, Chevrolet Camaro, Corvette, Mercedes-AMG, Nissan and Porsche – are represented in the field.

“Anyone who prevails in the ADAC GT Masters can stand their ground in international series as well,” says Romolo Liebchen, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. “The series is now being held for the ninth consecutive year. 25 entrants from eight marques contest the events, delivering thrilling racing in Germany, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands. The races will again be covered live on TV, which causes the fan community to steadily grow. We’re proud that so many customers opt for the Audi R8 LMS ultra. In the fierce on-track competition, our customers can depend on our presence with service vehicles and points of contact at all races and receiving optimum support from us.”

#### **The Audi customer teams in the 2015 ADAC GT Masters**

Audi R8 LMS ultra #1 (C. Abt Racing)  
Kelvin van der Linde/Stefan Wackerbauer (ZA/D)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #2 (C. Abt Racing)  
Jordan Lee Pepper/Nicki Thiim (ZA/DK)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #3 (C. Abt Racing)  
Christer Jöns/Andreas Weishaupt (D/D)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #10 (Dupré Engineering Motorsport)  
Christoph Dupré/NN (D)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #16 (Yaco Racing)  
Rahel Frey/Philip Geipel (CH/D)

Audi R8 LMS ultra #24 (kfzteile24 MS Racing Team)  
Marc Basseng/Florian Stoll (D/D)



Audi R8 LMS ultra #100 (kfzteile24 MS Racing Team)  
Daniel Dobitsch/Edward Sandström (D/S)

#### **Calendar of events**

24–26/04	Oschersleben (D)
05–07/06	Red Bull Ring (A)
19–21/06	Spa-Francorchamps (B)
03–05/07	Lausitzring (D)
14–16/08	Nürburgring (D)
28–30/08	Sachsenring (D)
18–20/09	Zandvoort (NL)
02–04/10	Hockenheim (D)

– End –

In 2014, the Audi Group delivered approximately 1,741,100 cars of the Audi brand to its customers. The company achieved revenue of €53.8 billion and an operating profit of €5.15 billion in 2014. Audi operates globally in more than 100 markets and has production facilities in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium), Bratislava (Slovakia), Martorell (Spain), Kaluga (Russia), Aurangabad (India), Changchun and Foshan (China) as well as Jakarta (Indonesia). The brand with the Four Rings will start producing cars in Curitiba (Brazil) this year and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) in 2016. Wholly owned subsidiaries of AUDI AG include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and sports motorcycle manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). The company currently employs approximately 80,000 people worldwide, thereof around 58,000 in Germany. Total investment of about €24 billion is planned from 2015 to 2019 – primarily in new products and sustainable technologies. Audi is committed to its corporate responsibility and has anchored the principle of sustainability for its products and processes in its strategy. The long-term goal is CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral mobility.