



Communications Motorsport

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Electrified: Audi to celebrate Formula E premiere

- **Electric racing series to open in Hong Kong with first Audi factory team**
- **Racing debut of the new Audi e-tron FE04**
- **Telephone press conference with Lucas di Grassi on Wednesday, November 29**

Neuburg a. d. Donau, November 27, 2017 – For the first time, Audi will be competing in motorsport as a factory team with a fully electric race car this weekend (December 2/3). The two races in Hong Kong form the opening event of the new Formula E season in which Audi is the first German automobile manufacturer to be involved. For Team Audi Sport ABT Schaeffler, Daniel Abt and Champion Lucas di Grassi will be at the wheel of the Audi e-tron FE04.

“The past few weeks were intensive and exciting for the whole squad,” says Head of Audi Motorsport Dieter Gass. Our agenda included the meticulous preparation of the four race cars, computer simulations of diverse strategies and situations, fine-tuning of all processes and perfect preparation of the entire equipment, to name just a few items on the completed checklist. “Now, everyone is happy to finally be traveling to the race track and competing for points and trophies again.”

For the first time, a Formula E season will start with two races on one weekend, a so-called double header. On Saturday and Sunday, the fans will experience two near-identical event days with practice, qualifying and races. Including the additional points for pole position and the fastest race lap, a total of 58 points will be awarded. “We aim to be perfectly positioned from minute one and manage a good start of the new season,” says Lucas di Grassi. The champion is looking forward to Hong Kong: “The city is great and the fans enthusiastic – the whole event is a fantastic spectacle.”

The 1.860-kilometer race track is routed directly along the waterfront and past the famous Ferris wheel. The temporary circuit uses streets that are normally public and has a very long straight that offers a good overtaking opportunity. It is followed by a technically challenging section with many tight turns. The track surface poses an additional challenge, as it changes from tarmac to concrete. On Saturday, 43 and on Sunday, 45 laps will be driven.

Driver Daniel Abt can hardly wait for the start: “We’ve been working hard in recent weeks – during tests on the track, in the simulator and in our preparations with the engineers. Obviously, we’ll only know in Hong Kong where we stand compared with the competition. But we’ve done



our homework.” While his teammate as the reigning champion will be entering the race in car number one, Abt will keep his proven number 66. Celebrating his 25th birthday on Sunday will be additional motivation for him to achieve a good result.

In Formula E’s Hong Kong debut last year, the German team experienced a chaotic race. Both Daniel Abt’s and Lucas di Grassi’s race cars were damaged as early as on lap one. While Abt had to park his car, di Grassi fought back from the end of the field to second place. His comeback drive was possible thanks to a bold strategy of his team and sophisticated energy management.

Both races in Hong Kong will start at 3 PM local time (8 AM CET). In Germany, Eurosport will start to air live coverage on both days at 7:45 AM. Internationally, about 70 channels will cover the Formula E races. A full list can be accessed on the internet at www.fiaformulae.com. Current information about Team Audi Sport ABT Schaeffler is available on Twitter at @audiformulae (Hashtags #etron #FormulaE #HKEPrix).

Facts and figures

Date: December 2/3, 2017

Track name: Hong Kong Central Harbourfront Circuit

Track length: 1.86 kilometers

Turns: 10

Top speed: approx. 200 km/h

Fastest/slowest turn: approx. 95/30 km/h

Previous winner: Sébastien Buemi (2016)

Best result of Audi Sport ABT Schaeffler: 2nd place, Lucas di Grassi (2016)

Lap record, qualifying: Nelson Piquet jr., 1m 03.099s (2016)

Lap record, race: Felix Rosenqvist, 1m 02.947s (2016)

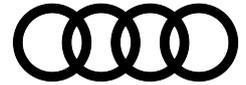
The champion will answer questions

How has Lucas di Grassi experienced the period of time following his title win? With what expectations is he traveling to Hong Kong? What can the fans look forward to most in the new season? The reigning Formula E Champion will answer these and other questions on

Wednesday, November 29, starting at 12:00 noon (CET)
on +49 69 130147803

during an Audi telephone press conference. After dialing in, please enter access code **70320154** on the keypad of your phone.

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In 2016, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.868 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,457 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 55,451 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2016 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €59.3 billion and an operating profit of €3.1 billion. At present, approximately 88,000 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.