



**Communications Motorsport**

Stefan Moser

Tel: +49 841 89-35550

E-mail: [stefan1.moser@audi.de](mailto:stefan1.moser@audi.de)

[www.audi-mediacyenter.com/en](http://www.audi-mediacyenter.com/en)

## **Formula E: latest news and miscellaneous info from Hong Kong**

- **More than 40,000 spectators expected at the race track**
- **Tai chi training for Daniel Abt and Lucas di Grassi**
- **Audi Hong Kong presents new Audi RS 5 Coupé**

**Hong Kong, December 1, 2017 – For Team Audi Sport ABT Schaeffler, racing begins in earnest this weekend when the new Formula E season kicks off in Hong Kong.**

Hong Kong is hosting the Formula E season opener for the second time. The organizers expect a total turnout of more than **40,000 spectators** on both race days this year and have long-term plans for the electric racing series. “We want to make our event the Monaco of Formula E,” says Alan Fang, CEO of Formula E Racing (Hong Kong) Ltd.

The press center in Hong Kong is bursting at the seams as well. More than **500 members of the media** have accredited themselves for the Formula E season opener.

There is hardly another **paddock** in the world delivering pictures at night as spectacular as the one in the Hong Kong harbor. This year, photographers can look forward to even better photo subjects. In parallel to the Formula E race, a new version of the famous “A Symphony of Lights” multimedia show is celebrating its premiere along the skyline of the Asian metropolis.

Daniel Abt and Lucas di Grassi used the Chinese popular sport of **tai chi** to gear up for the Formula E season opener. Hong Kong’s only tai-chi teacher inducted the two Audi campaigners into the secrets of the martial art that millions of Chinese as well as people around the world practice primarily for relaxation and meditation.

The local Audi importer used the opportunity of the Formula E season opener for the Hong Kong premiere of the new **Audi RS 5 Coupé** (combined fuel consumption in l/100 km: 8.7; combined CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in g/km: 197). Celebrity guests at the Audi Sport party at the China Merchant Warf Pier on Friday night included the two Audi Formula E drivers **Daniel Abt** and **Lucas di Grassi**.

For **Wolfgang Ullrich**, the Hong Kong E-Prix is a special event, as these will be the last two races before Audi’s longstanding head of motorsport enters retirement. Ullrich had handed over his duties to his successor, **Dieter Gass**, as far back as in January.



**Ernst Moser** is visiting Formula E in Hong Kong as well. The team principal of Audi Sport Team Phoenix from the DTM specifically scheduled a business meeting in Asia so that he is able to watch the season opener of the electric racing series.

The **Audi e-tron FE04** cars can be seen in Hong Kong for the first time sporting their final liveries. Following the presentation in Neuburg and the pre-season tests at Valencia, a few more details were changed. They include the visual design of the wheels of the electric race cars. Daniel Abt is now driving with red and title defender Lucas di Grassi with green stripes. The different colors are meant to make it easier for spectators to distinguish the cars.

Even before his **25th birthday** on Sunday Daniel Abt received gifts from his fans in the Hong Kong paddock, including a homemade cake. On Thursday, the new Audi factory driver visited the headquarters of **LGT Bank** in Hong Kong. Abt is a brand ambassador of the Liechtenstein private bank, was busy signing autographs for the staff during his visit, and posed for plenty of selfies with them.

In the 2017/2018 season, three drivers will again receive a one-time power boost of 100 kJ at the push of a button in each race. Fans can vote for their favorite driver on **fanboost.fiaformulae.com** and Twitter. On Friday, Daniel Abt maintained second place in the fanboost voting.

TV channel **Eurosport** will air live coverage of all Formula E races in most European countries. Co-commentator of the German Eurosport broadcast this weekend will be Rahel Frey who has gathered ample Asian experience in the Audi R8 LMS Cup. Coverage will begin both on Saturday and Sunday at 7:45 AM CET.

Current information about Team Audi Sport ABT Schaeffler is available on **Twitter** at **@audiformulae** (Hashtags #FormulaE #HKEPrix #etron #ProgressFeelsElectric #LeagueofPerformance).

- End -

The Audi Group, with its brands Audi, Ducati and Lamborghini, is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium segment. It is present in more than 100 markets worldwide and produces at 16 locations in 12 countries. 100 percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include Audi Sport GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy).

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.