



**Communications**

**Audi Sport customer racing**

Eva-Maria Becker

Tel: +49 841 89-33922

E-mail: [eva-maria.becker@audi.de](mailto:eva-maria.becker@audi.de)

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

## **Audi takes one-two-three podium lockout in Wuhan**

- **Best race weekend for Audi Sport in WTCR – FIA World Touring Car Cup**
- **Third victory for Jean-Karl Vernay in Audi RS 3 LMS, maiden pole position and first win for Gordon Shedden**
- **Nathanaël Berthon is fifth Audi driver to claim podium finish in 2018 season**

**Wuhan/Neuburg a. d. Donau, October 7, 2018 – The eighth race weekend of the WTCR – FIA World Touring Car Cup on the track in Wuhan, China delivered a dream result for the Audi RS 3 LMS. The Audi Sport Leopard Lukoil Team, Audi Sport Team Comtoy and Comtoy Racing squads scored 212 points with their six drivers – 92 points more than the previous best weekend in Zandvoort. In addition, Jean-Karl Vernay took the third victory of the season and is the best Audi driver in the standings in fifth position.**

The three races in the city center of the bustling metropolis will remain unforgettable for the Audi Sport customer racing squads. In first qualifying, Jean-Karl Vernay took his second pole position this season for the Audi Sport Leopard Lukoil Team. Afterwards, the Audi Sport driver took an unchallenged start-finish victory. It was his third this year following on from his wins in Marrakech and Zandvoort. His team mate Gordon Shedden completed the podium in third place. It was the first podium finish for the Scot this season. He subsequently rose to the occasion: In second qualifying he clinched his first pole position and the third for Audi Sport. Three other Audi drivers – Frédéric Vervisch, Denis Dupont and Jean-Karl Vernay – followed close behind.

For the second FIA WTCR race, the first ten competitors line up in reverse sequence on the starting grid. The Frenchman Nathanaël Berthon started fifth as the best Audi driver for Team Comtoy Racing and improved in spectacular battles to take third place. As a result, five of the six Audi RS 3 LMS drivers have won a trophy in the world cup this season.

Audi produced a crowning finish in the third race. Even before the start, Audi Sport Leopard Lukoil Team was one of the winners: during the short repair break, the mechanics changed the steering in time on Gordon Shedden's car, who had been an innocent victim in an accident in the second race. The effort proved to be well worthwhile: In a turbulent race, during which the safety car was deployed twice, Shedden kept cool and celebrated his first victory of the season. Frédéric Vervisch from Audi Sport Team Comtoy finished second to claim his sixth podium finish this year. His team mate Denis Dupont finished third again as he had a week before in Ningbo. The only downside: Jean-Karl Vernay scored no points after receiving a drive-through



penalty.

“A big thank you and congratulations to our teams and drivers,” said Chris Reinke, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. “The best weekend so far was impressive with two victories and four other podium finishes. You can really feel that everybody is concentrating their strengths in this critical stage of the championship.” In just three weeks the ninth of ten events is on the agenda at the track in Suzuka, Japan.

– 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 2017, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.878 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,815 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 55,900 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2017 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €60.1 billion and an operating profit of €5.1 billion. At present, approximately 90,000 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.