

Communications

Audi Sport customer racing

Eva-Maria Becker

Tel: +49 841 89-33922

E-mail: eva-maria.becker@audi.de

www.audi-mediacyber.com/en

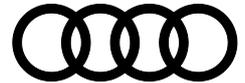
One-two win at Laguna Seca and third manufacturers' title for Audi at the Intercontinental GT Challenge

- **Christopher Haase/Kelvin van der Linde/Christopher Mies win the finale of Intercontinental GT Challenge in Laguna Seca/USA**
- **Frijns/Vanthoor/Winkelhock claim second at the California 8 Hours**
- **Audi wins the manufacturers' title of the IGTC for the third time in a row**

Laguna Seca/Neuburg a. d. Donau, October 28, 2018 – Spectacular finale at the fourth and final round of the Intercontinental GT Challenge (IGTC): At Laguna Seca/USA, Audi Sport customer racing turned a nine-point deficit into an 11-point advantage to secure the title in the manufacturers' classification for the third consecutive time. This was thanks to a double victory at the California 8 Hours.

After four races on four continents, the 2018 Intercontinental GT Challenge has been decided. In a spectacular eight-hour race, the Audi Sport Team Land with drivers Christopher Haase, Kelvin van der Linde and Christopher Mies (D/ZA/D) swept to victory after 306 laps. Over the entire race distance, a battle for the lead raged on the legendary race track. The number 29 Audi R8 LMS took off from pole position but was thrown down the field by two drive-through penalties. A decisive move was made at the six-hour mark when the team made clever use of a safety car phase to snatch the lead. Earning 25 points for the win and 18 points for second place thanks to Audi Sport Team WRT drivers Robin Frijns/Dries Vanthoor/Markus Winkelhock (NL/B/D), Audi Sport customer racing yielded the best possible result and managed to turn the points deficit into an advantage in the manufacturers' classification. In the IGTC, the two best-placed vehicles of a brand are eligible for points. The third Audi R8 LMS shared by Stuart Leonard, Sheldon van der Linde and Alex Riberas (GB/ZA/E) finished in fifth place.

With his win at the finale, Christopher Haase ranked second in the drivers' championship. Audi Sport drivers won this classification in 2016 and 2017. "The eight-hour race on this storied circuit couldn't have gone better," said Chris Reinke, Head of Audi Sport customer racing. "We experienced everything that makes long distance racing so fascinating and a great team sport at top level motor racing. Mere seconds separated the frontrunners over the entire distance. Ultimately our boys in both cars had the edge today and we're delighted to take home the third manufacturers' title in a row. Congratulations as well to Tristan Vautier and Mercedes for winning the drivers' title. Our balance over three years in the Intercontinental GT Challenge with



five of six possible titles underlines what our Audi R8 LMS is capable of. And we've taken it a step further with the new evolution stage for 2019, which we presented here in the paddock. Congratulations to the American squad Rearden Racing for winning the GT4 class." Vesko Kozarov, David Roberts and Max Faulkner (USA/USA/USA) achieved this success in an Audi R8 LMS GT4, with the driver quartet scoring 16th in the overall classification.

- 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 twelve 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.