



Communications Motorsport

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The journey begins: Audi starts Formula E world tour

- **Both Audi e-tron FE05 cars on their way to the season opener on December 15**
- **A good eight tons of hardware dispatched for Daniel Abt and Lucas di Grassi**
- **Team principal Allan McNish: “We’re really excited”**

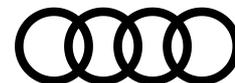
Neuburg a. d. Donau, November 29, 2018 – The countdown is on: In 16 days’ time, ABB FIA Formula E Championship will start its new season. Audi Sport ABT Schaeffler, with its drivers Daniel Abt and Lucas di Grassi, is entering the race as the title defender. Now, the two all-electric Audi e-tron FE05 cars embarked on their tour around the world that will take them across five continents and eleven countries covering a total distance of more than 70,000 kilometers.

The crates are closed and the shipping documents complete: A good eight tons of hardware is now on its way to the Formula E season. The first stop will be Ad Diriyah on the outskirts of Saudi Arabia’s capital Riyadh, where the mechanics will receive their two Audi e-tron FE05 cars for the season opener. On December 15, at 3 PM local time, the starting lights will switch to green again for the first time. It is the first stage on a long journey that began in 2017 with the launch of the development project of the fully electric race car.

The team’s containers and boxes not only contain the race cars: Two complete sets of bodywork and five nose cones, including the front wing as spares, have been sent on the journey as well. In addition, DHL – a logistics partner of the series and of the German team – is hauling all of the garage equipment, the mechanics’ tools and other consumables and spare parts. On board, the contents also include an Italian espresso machine, a stereo sound system and twelve umbrellas for sun and rain protection.

“It’s a little like in roulette: No more bets, please,” says Team Principal Allan McNish tongue in cheek. “Our newly developed powertrain has been sealed, the pre-season tests are over and the race cars have been loaded – when we’re allowed to open the crates again, the new season will finally start in earnest. We’ve been intensively preparing for this moment over the past few months, so we’re really excited.”

After the first race, the tour will take the teams to Marrakesh, Santiago de Chile, Mexico City, Hong Kong and the Chinese tourist resort Sanya. The race cars will only be sent back to the team before the Formula E season returns to Europe in April. Prior to that, they will be hauled directly



from one race track to the other – a major logistical feat which DHL masters by combining air, ship and ground transportation as efficiently as possible. Due to the combined transportation of all cars and materials, plus the selection of appropriate routes and means of transportation, emissions are minimized to the extent possible. Essentially, Formula E pursues the aim of reducing its emissions step by step and compensating them in the long run.

In the second half of the season, races in Rome, Paris, Monaco, Berlin and Bern will take the team and its technology across Europe. The more than 70,000-kilometer tour of the world will culminate in the season's finale in New York in mid-July of 2019.

– End –

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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.