



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

## **First victory of the Audi R8 LMS in Blancpain GT Series this season**

- **Vanthoor/Weerts win at Misano for Belgian Audi Club Team WRT**
- **Audi R8 LMS GT4 remains unbeaten in Canada**
- **Tom Kristensen drives demo laps at Spielberg**

**Neuburg a. d. Donau, July 1, 2019 – Audi Sport customer racing scored further successes with its customer teams last weekend. In round two of the Blancpain GT World Challenge Europe, the Audi R8 LMS drove to its first victory this season. The Audi R8 LMS GT4 triumphed again in the Canadian Touring Car Championship and clinched podium finishes in the United States as well. In addition, several top-three results went to the Audi RS 3 LMS.**

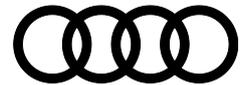
#### **Audi R8 LMS GT3**

First victory this season: Belgian Audi Club Team WRT scored its first victory this season in round two of the Blancpain GT World Challenge Europe at Misano (Italy). In an Audi R8 LMS, Belgian Audi Sport driver Dries Vanthoor and his compatriot Charles Weerts won in extremely hot weather conditions. Thus, 18-year-old Weerts is the youngest winner in the history of the Blancpain GT Series. Belgian Audi Club Team WRT, while running in second position, had made perfect use of a safety car period for the driver change from Vanthoor to Weerts and captured the lead. Weerts held up to the pressure from his immediate rivals and safely brought home an advantage of nearly three seconds. For Dries Vanthoor, following his victory with Audi Sport Team Phoenix in the 24-hour race at the Nürburgring, this marked the second triumph within the space of one week. In third position, Audi Sport drivers Christopher Haase (Germany) and Simon Gachet (France) from French Team Saintéloc Racing finished on the podium at Misano too.

#### **Audi R8 LMS GT4**

Continuing to be unbeaten: Parker Thompson at Shannonville Motorsport Park also dominated the third race weekend of the Canadian Touring Car Championship. In an Audi R8 LMS GT4 from Speedstar Motorsport, the Canadian won both races of the weekend. As a result, Thompson, who was previously unbeatable at Mosport and Calabogie, has won all six races of the season to date.

Third podium in succession: With third position in round four of the IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge at Watkins Glen (USA), CarBahn Motorsport, following victory at Sebring and third



place at Mid-Ohio, secured its third podium finish. Jeff Westphal and Tyler McQuarrie in an Audi R8 LMS GT4 had entered the race from the fourth spot on the grid and, finishing in third, trailed the winners by merely five seconds after the four-hour distance. With a four-point deficit, Westphal/McQuarrie are the runners-up in the current drivers' standings.

### **Audi RS 3 LMS (TCR)**

Victory and podium finishes in Canada: Team TRC/M1GT Racing with Matthew Taskinen celebrated a TCR class win in the Canadian Touring Car Championship at Shannonville Motorsport Park. In an Audi RS 3 LMS, Taskinen won the opening race of the weekend while his teammate, Jean-Francois Hevey, came third. In the second race, Taskinen, in position two, scored another podium finish.

Third place in the United States: Gavin Ernstone and Jon Morley managed the leap onto the podium in the race of the IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge at Watkins Glen (USA). After four hours, the duo from Roadshagger Racing by eEuroparts.com in an Audi RS 3 LMS secured third place. For Ernstone/Morley, this marked the second top-three position this season.

Summer in the city: The WTCR – FIA World Touring Car Cup will kick off the second half of its season on the circuit of Vila Real in Portugal from July 5 to 7. The narrow streets of the fast city circuit pose a special challenge to the Audi Sport drivers and their competitors. A mass collision after the start last year showed that the track does not forgive even the smallest mistake. Furthermore, the circuit 100 kilometers east of Porto is the only venue on the calendar at which a “Joker Lap” is mandatory: in a traffic circle, the participants have to take a longer route once per race. Last year, Gordon Shedden in an Audi RS 3 LMS started from pole position on a reversed grid and achieved sixth position. The best Audi Sport driver in Vila Real a year ago was fourth-placed Jean-Karl Vernay, Shedden's teammate in Leopard Racing Team Audi Sport. In Comtoy Team Audi Sport, Niels Langeveld will race in Portugal for the first time. His teammate, Frédéric Vervisch, is traveling to Vila Real full of vim and vigor. In the two most recent races of the FIA WTCR at the Nürburgring, he clinched two second places in an Audi RS 3 LMS and subsequently won the 24-hour race in an Audi R8 LMS.

### **Miscellaneous**

Appearance by a legend: Nine-time Le Mans winner Tom Kristensen participated in the “Legends Parade” held as part of the supporting program of the Austrian Grand Prix in an Audi R8 Coupé V10 performance quattro (Combined fuel consumption in l/100 km: 13.1; combined CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in g/km: 297\*). Birgit Lauda, the widow of recently deceased three-time Formula One World Champion Niki Lauda, was the Dane's prominent passenger.

Victorious Audi R8 LMS at Goodwood: Audi Sport driver Frank Stippler will present to the fans the Audi R8 LMS that won the 24-hour race at Nürburgring about a week ago during the Festival of Speed at Goodwood (United Kingdom). Stippler, who was victorious in the iconic race in the Eifel together with Pierre Kaffer, Frédéric Vervisch and Dries Vanthoor, will drive the race car on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



**Coming up next week**

05-06/07 Hockenheim (D), rounds 9 and 10, DMV GTC  
05-07/07 Mosport (CDN), round 7, IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship  
05-07/07 Mosport (CDN), round 5, IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge  
05-07/07 Hockenheim (D), rounds 5 and 6, Spezial Tourenwagen Trophy  
05-07/07 Portimão (P), round 5, 24H Series  
05-07/07 Zhejiang (CN), rounds 7 and 8, TCR Asia  
05-07/07 Vila Real (P), rounds 3 and 4, TCR Ibérico  
06-07/07 Vila Real (P), rounds 16 to 18, WTCR – FIA-Tourenwagen-Weltcup  
06-07/07 Vila Real (P), Taça Internacional de Vila Real GT4 South European Series  
06-07/07 Fuji (J), rounds 7 and 8, Blancpain GT World Challenge Asia  
06-07/07 Budapest (H), rounds 7 and 8, International GT Open  
06-07/07 Hungaroring (H), rounds 5 and 6, GT Open Cup  
06-07/07 Zhejiang (CN), rounds 5 and 6, TCR China  
07/07 MotorPark Romania (RO), round 3, Romanian Endurance Series

- End -

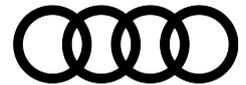
The specified fuel consumption and emission data have been determined according to the measurement procedures prescribed by law. Since 1st September 2017, certain new vehicles are already being type-approved according to the Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicles Test Procedure (WLTP), a more realistic test procedure for measuring fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Starting on September 1st 2018, the New European Driving Cycle (NEDC) will be replaced by the WLTP in stages. Owing to the more realistic test conditions, the fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions measured according to the WLTP will, in many cases, be higher than those measured according to the NEDC. For further information on the differences between the WLTP and NEDC, please visit [www.audi.de/wltp](http://www.audi.de/wltp).

We are currently still required by law to state the NEDC figures. In the case of new vehicles which have been type-approved according to the WLTP, the NEDC figures are derived from the WLTP data. It is possible to specify the WLTP figures voluntarily in addition until such time as this is required by law. In cases where the NEDC figures are specified as value ranges, these do not refer to a particular individual vehicle and do not constitute part of the sales offering. They are intended exclusively as a means of comparison between different vehicle types. Additional equipment and accessories (e.g. add-on parts, different tyre formats, etc.) may change the relevant vehicle parameters, such as weight, rolling resistance and aerodynamics, and, in conjunction with weather and traffic conditions and individual driving style, may affect fuel consumption, electrical power consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and the performance figures for the vehicle.

Further information on official fuel consumption figures and the official specific CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of new passenger cars can be found in the "Guide on the fuel economy, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and power consumption of new passenger car models", which is available free of charge at all sales dealerships and from DAT Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH, Hellmuth-Hirth-Str. 1, D-73760 Ostfildern, Germany and at [www.dat.de](http://www.dat.de).

---

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 18 locations in 13 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 2018, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.812 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 5,750 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 53,004 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.

---