



**Communications Motorsport**

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## **Audi top in qualifying for home round**

- **Front row for Audi in FIA WEC at the Nürburgring**
- **Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer on pole position**
- **Lucas di Grassi/Oliver Jarvis complete front row**

**Ingolstadt/Nürburgring, July 23, 2016 – Impressive performance in qualifying in the Eifel: Marcel Fässler (CH) and André Lotterer (D) in the Audi R18 clinched grid position one in round four of the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC). With a gap of only 26 hundredths of a second Lucas di Grassi (BR) and Oliver Jarvis (GB) in the sister car number 8 directly trailed them.**

As in the season opener at Silverstone Audi, now in its home round, captured the front row again with its two hybrid sports cars. “In spite of difficult conditions everything went perfectly today. Both driver teams were fast and used the right tactics,” Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich praised the squads. Fässler and Lotterer in car number 7 achieved a joint best time of 1m 39.444s. “I had no traffic and managed a sensational lap,” said Lotterer who achieved the second-fastest single time in the field. “Staying out for three laps was the right choice because we became faster and faster.” Marcel Fässler added: “We were instantly very fast today. A thank you goes to our new engineer Erik Schuivens. It’s a shame that our teammate Benoît Tréluyer can’t be with us today. We’re in close contact with him and he’s sharing the thrill with us.”

Lucas di Grassi set the best single time and was particularly pleased with the way his Audi R18 was running. “The car’s handling was simply superb today. That was fun,” reported the Brazilian. His teammate Oliver Jarvis had to go out once more. The race directors had cancelled his first lap for having exceeded the track limits. “That’s why I made another attempt at the end of the session,” said the Briton. But I’m happy about positions one and two for Audi. Things couldn’t have gone any better for the squad.”

Stefan Dreyer was very pleased on making his debut as Project Leader LMP as well. “This performance is impressive. After a lot of hard work, the entire team deserves



this success. We got everything right today. Obviously, that's our goal for Sunday as well. However, a 6-hour race is an altogether different challenge. Still, I'm optimistic."

The race starts on Sunday, July 24, at 13:00. Eurosport will be airing full-length coverage of the 6 Hours of Nürburgring live and free of charge on its website: <http://video.eurosport.de/wec/video-live.shtml>

### **Qualifying results**

- 1 Fässler/Lotterer (Audi R18) 1m 39.444s
- 2 Di Grassi/Duval/Jarvis (Audi R18) 1m 39.710s
- 3 Bernhard/Hartley/Webber (Porsche) 1m 39.861s
- 4 Dumas/Jani/Lieb (Porsche) 1m 39.893s
- 5 Conway/Kobayashi/Sarrazin (Toyota) 1m 40.639s
- 6 Buemi/Davidson/Nakajima (Toyota) 1m 40.748s
- 7 Imperatori/Kraihamer/Tuscher (Rebellion) 1m 46.081s
- 8 Kaffer/Trummer/Webb (CLM-AER) 1m 46.907s
- 9 Beche/Heidfeld/Prost (Rebellion) 1m 47.026s
- 10 Brundle/Rast/Rusinov (Oreca-Nissan) 1m 48.984s

- 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. In the second half of 2016, the production of the Audi Q5 will start in San José Chiapa (Mexico). 100-percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy).

In 2015, the Audi Group delivered to customers approximately 1.8 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,245 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and about 54,800 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2015 financial year, the Audi Group achieved total revenue of €58.4 billion and an operating profit of €4.8 billion. At present, approximately 85,000 people work for the company all over the world, about 60,000 of them in Germany. Audi focuses on new products and sustainable technologies for the future of mobility.