



Communications Motorsport

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Both Audi cars on front row at Austin

- **Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer in number 7 Audi R18 on pole position**
- **Number 8 sister car completes good performance**
- **Audi in front in all practice and qualifying sessions at Austin so far**

Ingolstadt/Austin, September 16, 2016 – For the fourth time this year and for the third time in succession Audi has achieved the best starting base: the two Audi R18 cars locked out the front row of the grid for round six of the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC).

As previously at Silverstone and the Nürburgring, car number 7 was unbeatable in qualifying. Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/Benoît Tréluyer (CH/D/F) will be starting the race at Austin (Texas) on Saturday from pole position. “The car felt great,” said Lotterer, who set the fastest single time of 1m 45.703s. “This is fantastic for the whole squad that has been working hard lately.” Marcel Fässler completed the result – number 7 posted the best time of all entrants at 1m 45.842s. “Our Audi simply felt perfect in all turns. That was huge fun,” said the Swiss.

The number 8 sister car had to admit defeat by a very narrow margin, as Lucas di Grassi/Loïc Duval/Oliver Jarvis (BR/F/GB) were lacking only 141 thousandths of a second in the end. “We were the fastest in all three free practice sessions,” said Oliver Jarvis. “Obviously, we’d have liked standing in front again as we previously did in Mexico, but I just didn’t catch a clear lap.” Loïc Duval, who achieved the second-best single time of all drivers, added: “Unfortunately, we had a little too much understeer. For the team it’s great that both Audi cars are at the very front. Now it’s about being top-class in the race as well.”

Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich was happy about the performance shown by his squad: “The fourth pole position in the sixth race shows how fast the Audi R18 is in its current version. Congratulations to our drivers who have achieved this result. We have an important and difficult race before us. A victory would be a sweet reward for the hard work of the entire team.”

Stefan Dreyer, Head of LMP at Audi Sport, emphasizes how hard the conditions at the Circuit of the Americas were: “We had air temperature of 35 degrees centigrade and tarmac of 45 degrees in qualifying. It was simply great to see how good our drivers were in these difficult conditions. I also take my hat off to the performance of the whole team because especially the last few days were hard work. We were in front in each session. Now we’re going to leave no stone unturned to be there on Saturday as well.”



The 6-hour race will start on Saturday at 17:00 local time. TV channel Eurosport will be airing live full-length-coverage during the night from Saturday to Sunday from 00:00 to 06:15 (CEST) in Germany. Audi will be keeping its fans up to speed on Facebook (AudiSport) and Twitter (@audisport).

Qualifying results

- 1 Fässler/Lotterer/Tréluyer (Audi R18) 1m 45.842s
- 2 Di Grassi/Duval/Jarvis (Audi R18) 1m 45.983s
- 3 Bernhard/Hartley/Webber (Porsche) 1m 46.560s
- 4 Conway/Kobayashi/Sarrazin (Toyota) 1m 47.218s
- 5 Dumas/Jani/Lieb (Porsche) 1m 47.331s
- 6 Buemi/Davidson/Nakajima (Toyota) 1m 48.584s
- 7 Imperatori/Kraihamer/Tuscher (Rebellion) 1m 53.646s
- 8 Trummer/Webb (CLM-AER) 1m 54.577s
- 9 Lapierre/Menezes/Richelmi (Alpine-Nissan) 1m 55.892s
- 10 Bradley/Merhi/Rao (Oreca-Nissan) 1m 56.873s

– End –

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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.