



#### **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)

## **Distinguished driver line-up in the Audi R8 LMS GT4**

- **Audi R8 LMS GT4 race debut on the Nürburgring at the end of May**
- **Two driver squads: DTM drivers and current champions**
- **Audi Sport Team Phoenix the supervising team**

**Ingolstadt, May 11, 2017 – The new Audi R8 LMS GT4 faces its first race entry at the Nürburgring 24 Hours from May 25 to 28. Audi Sport will be relying on experienced forces: Audi Sport Team Phoenix has been a partner of the customer racing program from the very first minute, whilst the seven international drivers already have many thousands of race kilometers on the Nordschleife under their belts, as well as numerous titles.**

Audi Sport Team Phoenix has so far taken four overall victories at the 24-hour race in the Eifel, and have twice won the DTM drivers title with Audi. The seven drivers, on the other hand, can look back on quite different careers, and yet they all have one thing in common: they know exactly what a premiere is all about – to drive the cars quickly and safely to the finish line, so that Audi Sport customer racing can continue to develop the model with the collected data.

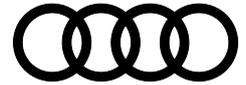
#### **The line-up in detail**

Audi R8 LMS GT4 #17 Joonas Lappalainen/Alexander Mies/Peter Terting/Alex Yoong (FIN/D/D/MAL)

Audi R8 LMS GT4 #18 Christian Abt/Rahel Frey/Patrick Huisman/Peter Terting (D/CH/NL/D)

All the drivers of the number 18 race car have competed in the DTM in the past, whilst four current champions will be at the helm of number 17. Rahel Frey is the only woman in the line-up. After her DTM career, she has won six GT3 races with the Audi R8 LMS since 2013. Her teammate Peter Terting won the ADAC Volkswagen Lupo Cup in 2002, raced in the DTM, was runner-up in the Seat Leon Supercopa in 2004 and celebrated race victories in the World Touring Car Championship as a factory driver for the Spanish brand of the Volkswagen Group. Christian Abt and Patrick Huisman achieved fourth place in the 2004 24-hour race in the Eifel with an ABT-Audi TT-R. Christian Abt has stood second on the podium at this race five times already. Like Abt, Patrick Huisman also drove in the DTM, and, as well as being the only driver who won the Porsche Supercup four times, has contested more than 30 24-hour races.

Four title holders from the 2016 season will be driving the sister car. Double-entrant Peter Terting is the current champion of the GT4 European Series Northern Cup, whilst the Finn Joonas Lappalainen won the Audi Sport TT Cup. Alex Yoong from Malaysia, a former Formula 1 driver, won the Audi R8 LMS Cup in Asia for the third time in a row in 2016. Alexander Mies, the



younger brother of Audi Sport driver Christopher Mies, is the current champion and junior champion in the VLN.

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 2016, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.871 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,457 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 55,451 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2015 financial year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €58.4 billion and an operating profit of €4.8 billion. At present, approximately 88,000 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.