

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

4 – 2 February 2007

INDEPENDENTS' PRIZE MONEY CONFIRMED

Prize money for the Independent drivers in the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship will total to euro 352,000.

The prize money will be awarded to the drivers entered in the Yokohama Independents' Trophy. At each race meeting, a total of 32,000 euro will be awarded to the top six Independent drivers, classified by adding together the points obtained in the two races:

- 12,000 euro to the first driver
- 8,000 to the second
- 5,000 to the third
- 3,000 to the fourth
- 2,000 to the fifth
- 2,000 to the sixth

Previous winners of the WTCC Independents' Trophy were Wiechers-Sport's Marc Hennerici (BMW 320i) in 2005 and GR Asia's Tom Coronel (SEAT León) last year.

WIECHERS-SPORT SIGN STEFANO D'ASTE

The 32-year old Italian Stefano D'Aste will take part again in the FIA World Touring Car Championship. D'Aste who raced the 2005 and 2006 seasons with Proteam Motorsport, has now joined the Germany-based Wiechers Sport and will drive their brand new BMW 320si.

"We are happy to have Stefano D'Aste with us. He is a very quick driver with a great potential. I'm sure that we will have both, success and fun with him during the season!" team manager Dominik Greiner said.

"During the test we had in Oschersleben a few weeks ago, Stefano was impressed by the car. I think that we have a good package and I'm looking forward to have a successful season with him!" commented technical director Thomas Schiemann.

"I'm very happy to race with Wiechers-Sport. I like very much the team and their professional working approach. We will be working all together to do our best in 2007. In the meanwhile I'm going to buy a pocket German-Italian dictionary." said the driver.

ONE-DAY TEST FOR PORTEIRO AT ADRIA

Last Tuesday, on the Italian racetrack of Adria, BMW Team Italy-Spain's new driver Félix Porteiro completed another test at the wheel of his BMW 320si.

With a car that was still in 2006 specifications, the young Spaniard focused on running in some mechanical components that will be used by the team on the WTCC opening meeting at Curitiba, such as gearboxes and brakes.

This task accomplished, Porteiro also spent some time in practising the start.











CHEVROLET DRIVERS CLAIM KARTING PODIUM

The Chevrolet team - formed by WTCC drivers Nicola Larini, Alain Menu and Robert Huff - was classified in second position in the second edition of the Yokohama WTCC-Kart Event, that took place last week in Payerne, Switzerland.

The meeting, organised by Yokohama Suisse, gathered 25 teams for a total of 150 drivers, who took part in the 3-hour race.

In spite of the fact that they were by far the fastet team in the race, Larini, Menu and Huff had to settle in second place - close behind the AutoBild team - due to the regulations that took also into consideration the number of driver changes and the hour-by-hour rankings.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE FIRST MEETING

Rounds 1 and 2 of the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Curitiba, Brazil, 10^{th} and 11^{th} March.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 27th February.

The Accreditation Form may be downloaded from the websites <u>www.fia.com</u> and <u>www.fiawtcc.com</u>.

- International Press must send applications to: Fabio Ravaioli – FIA WTCC Media Delegate tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: <u>media@fiawtcc.com</u>
- Brazilian Press must send applications to: Pierpaolo Nota tel: 041 32623031, fax: 041 32623031, email: <u>pier@cidadesdobrasil.com.br</u>
- TV and Radio must send applications to: Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport tel +33 1 40938517, fax +33 1 40938002; email: antonios@eurosport.com



to the 2007 FIA WTCC Race of Brazil – 10th/11th March, in Curitiba

more information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com