

IMAGOLIVE

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Oggetto: FIA GT CHAMPIONSHIP - NEWS UPDATE #5



The first milestone of the 2008 season passed yesterday, when full-season entries closed for the 2008 FIA GT Championship. The entry lists will be published by the FIA to coincide with the launch of the season at Monza, on March 13th. However, first indications are that there should be an excellent grid in both GT1 and GT2.

The official test days in Monza on March 13th and 14th, open to GT1, GT2, GT3 and GT4 cars, will be followed by a two-day test at Nogaro, on March 31st and April 1st. As well as being open to all teams, this will be the official balance of performance test for the GT2 and GT3 cars. There will also be a balance of performance test for the GT4 and Sports Light categories of the GT4 European Cup.

On to the news. [Selleslagh Racing Team has announced an exciting line-up for 2008](#), with triple FIA GT Champion Christophe Bouchut joined by Dutch driver Xavier Maassen, fresh from single-seaters, sharing the team's new Corvette C6-R.

With the FIA GT heading to Argentina for the season finale in November, two Argentine drivers were announced for the [Advanced Engineering PeCom Racing Team](#) Ferrari 430 GT2. Experienced rally driver Luis Perez Companc will share the car with young Matías Russo. Advanced Engineered, managed by Amato Ferrari, entered the last three rounds of 2007, finishing on the podium in Zolder.

Kessel Racing announced the name of the driver who will share their Ferrari 430 GT2 with reigning FIA GT3 European Champion Henri Moser : young Italian [Fabrizio Del Monte](#). An experienced single-seater driver, Del Monte has tested in Formula One and raced in Champ Car.

The Citation Cup, launched in 2007 to give non-professional drivers their own place in GT1, was a real success. A new Austrian team, [AT-Racing](#), has announced that it will run a Corvette C5-R in the 2008 series. The drivers will be team owner Alexander Talkanitsa, from Belarus, and FIA GT regular Wolfgang Kaufmann. The team manager is Sepp Renauer, whose team entered two Porsches in the 2006 season of the FIA GT Championship.

[The G2 class should have a boost in 2008, with two Mosler MT900 cars](#) in competition. Entered by Antonin Charouz, the line-up will include Czech rally driver Stepan Vojtech, German driver Kenneth Heyer and Czech Jaromir Jirik – both of whom raced in the FIA GT3 European Championship - and Adam Lacko, also from the Czech Republic, last seen in the FIA GT in a Saleen in 2005.

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