

# WTCC

FIA World Touring Car  
Championship

## FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

# 9 – 9 March 2007

### WTCC FOR CHARITY IN CURITIBA

The FIA WTCC Race of Brazil will give its contribution to help Brazilian people who are starving. Together KSO, the championship promoter, HSBC, partner of the event, and the City Hall of Curitiba, decided to offer free tickets to the public in exchange for one kilogram of food.

Fans who wish to attend the races on Sunday may collect the tickets bringing the foods to nine different City Hall's offices or to three different HSBC points: Agency Parolin, Agency Portão and Teatro HSBC. The foods collected will be donated by HSBC and the City Hall of Curitiba to the charity society Instituto Pró-Cidadania de Curitiba who will distribute them to those in need.

### WTCC DRIVERS MEET FANS AND MAYOR

Official proceedings to the WTCC season of 2007 got underway yesterday in the centre of Curitiba. A day of promotion began with drivers parading along the Avenida Luiz Xavier before reaching their destination - the vibrant Rua das Flores where racing cars were exhibited. Enthusiastic Brazilian fans were treated to two autograph sessions in the afternoon; the main attraction being local hero and new addition to BMW Team Germany, Augusto Farfus.

In the afternoon the Mayor of Curitiba, Mr Beto Richa, Marcello Lotti, general manager of KSO, Mr Glen Valente, Marketing Director of HSBC, and Mr Guilherme Pimentel director of TIM – Regional Sul, welcomed the drivers at a cocktail reception attended by a large representation of the press.

### TIAGO MONTEIRO JOINS SEAT SPORT

SEAT Sport have reinforced their team by signing Tiago Monteiro. The Portuguese driver will join SEAT's four other drivers - Gené, Jourdain, Muller and Tarquini – on the first European event of the 2007 FIA WTCC at Zandvoort, on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Although not racing, Monteiro will attend the championship's opening at Curitiba, in order for him to get to know the team and gain knowledge of a WTCC race meeting. Monteiro's maiden contact with the WTCC SEAT León and SEAT Sport was when he tested the car in Valencia recently. He demonstrated his desire to move to the WTCC then, and all parties worked hard to secure this deal. Monteiro – 30-years old from Porto – raced the last two seasons in Formula One with Jordan and Midland, finishing third in the 2005 USA GP.

*"I am quite satisfied. Since the test in Valencia I realised that the team has great experience and can compete at the highest professional level. With their help I am sure that I will be able to learn rapidly and to be among the best as soon as possible. WTCC is one of the few real world championships, and it becomes bigger and more important year by year. The promotion and image are excellent, and the promoters are doing a great job. I am impatient to enter the action,"* said Monteiro.

OFFICIAL PARTNERS

Canon

ADVAN  
YOKOHAMA

AMD

COURTYARD  
Amen

MONROE

BERU

### **TOURING CAR BUREAU'S DECISION**

On the eve of the opening race meeting, the Touring Car Bureau took the decision of reducing the minimum weight of the rear-wheel-drive cars by 15 kg for the Brazilian event in Curitiba.

These 15 kg are subtracted from the total weight of the car – including the handicap weight described in article 79a of the Sporting Regulations.

### **CORONEL TO PROMOTE DUTCH WTCC ROUND**

SEAT Holland and GR Asia have unveiled the colourful and aggressive livery – with threatening shark teeth on the radiator grill – that Tom Coronel's SEAT León will sport during the FIA WTCC opening meeting at Curitiba, Brazil.

The white wording "MAY 6<sup>th</sup> ZANDVOORT" will appear on both sides of the orange and black car. "We are proud to give our own promotional contribution to attract Dutch motor sport fans to Zandvoort for the first WTCC event in Europe," SEAT Netherlands autosport manager Ron Reinders declared.

SEAT Holland will also broadcast live Zandvoort's second race during their own TV racing programme.

### **HIS BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING**

For the World Touring Car Championship's opening rounds at Curitiba this weekend, reigning champion Andy Priaulx will sport, on his helmet, the wording "congratulations to Andy and Carlee". Priaulx was due to be best man at the wedding of school mate Andy Richmond and Carlee Yates in Guernsey on Saturday, before the Curitiba date was changed. Because he cannot attend the wedding, Priaulx has provided a speech on DVD to be played at the reception, has organised two stag parties for his friend, and will sport congratulatory decals on his helmet. His wife Jo will attend the wedding, while his son Sebastian and daughter Daniella will be page boy and bridesmaid at the ceremony.

### **WTCC WELCOMES ERIC GENÉ**

The FIA WTCC is pleased to celebrate a new addition to its extended family. Jordi Gené and wife Monica are parents for the third time following the birth of baby Eric. He joins the Gené family as younger brother to Maria and Jordi Jnr.

**COUNTDOWN: - 2 DAYS**



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

more information and pictures: [www.fiawtcc.com](http://www.fiawtcc.com)