



# GT NEWS

NEWSLETTER nr 11 - 29th JUNE 2007

## ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL !

2007 is a special year for the Motorsport Arena Oschersleben, as it marks its tenth anniversary. It is also turning into quite a special season for the FIA GT Championship – the first international series to race in Oschersleben back in 1998. Four races have seen four different teams claim overall victory so far, with three different makes of car. The points could hardly be closer, with a grand total of eleven drivers separated by just three points ! Aston Martin, Corvette, Lamborghini or Maserati ... the Championship has never been closer.

The GT2 category, of an exceptional quality this year, has seen some excellent races – but there has been just one winner so far : AF Corse Motorola. The Italian team, reigning Champions in the category, has won all four races to date, three with the pairing of Dirk Müller and Toni Vilander, and most recently with Gianmaria Bruni and Stéphane Ortelli. Can the Porsches, which have come close to winning already this season, end the Ferrari domination on home ground ?

New for 2007, the Citation Cup, a GT1 race-within-a-race for non-professional drivers is currently led by Tom Cloet, but with his team SRT forced to miss the event, due to a clash with the FFSA GT Championship, Oschersleben could see a change of leader.

The FIA GT Championship has visited Oschersleben on seven previous occasions. Last year, victory went to Vitaphone Racing Team's Maserati MC 12, which then went on to win the 24-hour race at Spa. With the Total 24 Hours of Spa following on from Oschersleben again, will the same pattern be maintained ?

The busy weekend of racing will also include two other SRO series : the ADAC GT Masters, which had a successful debut at the Nürburgring in early June, and the GT4 European Cup, which first raced at Silverstone in May. These series will be joined by the ADAC Procar Series and the Formula Renault 2.0 Northern European Cup.



**Motorsport Arena Oschersleben  
July 6th - 8th 2007**

Web site : [www.motorsportarena.com](http://www.motorsportarena.com)  
email : [info@motorsportarena.com](mailto:info@motorsportarena.com)  
Circuit length : 3969 m  
Media Contact : Sabrina Gorges  
email : [presse@motorsportarena.com](mailto:presse@motorsportarena.com)

### FIA GT statistics

*The FIA GT Championship has raced at Oschersleben at seven prior occasions.  
GT1 Pole in 2006 : Michael Bartels  
1:21.520 (Vitaphone Maserati MC 12)  
GT2 : Andrew Kirkaldy - 1:25.930(Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2)  
Please note that the circuit has gained 302 metres in changes to the 1st corner.*



### WHAT THE DRIVERS THINK

*"For me, the Oschersleben circuit is quite a technical one, with lots of variations of corners and a place where the set up is very important. The Lamborghini could work well at this circuit. I think it suits the car, and if we get the tyres to work properly then I'm confident. Our luck should change sometime !*

*"*

*Peter Kox, All-Inkl.com Racing Lamborghini Murciélago*

*"Oschersleben is a lucky circuit for the Maserati. And the last part is quite fast and technical."*

*Andrea Bertolini, Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati MC 12*

*"I'll try to keep all four wheels on the track this time ....*

*Mike Hezemans, Carsport Holland Corvette C6R, after his spectacular jump in 2006  
(photo Susanne Rossbach)*



For more information on the teams,  
drivers and everything about the  
FIA GT Championship,  
please visit :  
[www.fiagt.com](http://www.fiagt.com)



## CLASSIFICATION AFTER MONZA

### GT1 Drivers Classification

Biagi	21
Kumpen/Longin/Wendlinger/Ryan	20
Montanari/Ramos	19
Bouchut /Mücke	18
Hezemans/Deletraz	18
Bertolini/Piccini	15
Babini / Davies	12

### GT1 Teams Classification

Vitaphone Racing	40
Jetalliance	22
Pekaracing	20
All-Inkl.com	18
Team Carsport Holland	18
Scuderia Playteam Sarafree	16
Aston Martin Racing BMS	12

### GT2 Drivers Classification

Müller/Vilander	38
Bruni/Ortelli	18
Tim Mullen	16
Zani/Busnelli	15
Ruberti/Pasini	14
Collard/Malucelli	13
Rugolo/Cressoni	13

### GT2 Teams Championship

AF Corse Motorola	56
Racing Team Edil Crls	27
Scuderia Ecosse	22
Ebimotors	15
BMS Scuderia Italia	13
Tech9 Motorsport	9

### GT1 Manufacturers Cup

Maserati	56
Corvette	47
Aston Martin	35
Lamborghini	18

### GT2 Manufacturers Cup

Ferrari	101
Porsche	46

### Citation Cup Classification

Cloet	30
Macari/Aucott	24
Kutemann/Waaijbergen	17
Vannelet	16
Kuismanen / Casadei	10
Stepec/Carcone	8
Engelhorn	6
Jakubowski/Labhardt	5

## TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT...

After the long gap between Bucharest and Monza, the FIA GT Championship is gathering up speed again. Barely ten days after the chequered flag fell at Monza, the teams and drivers will meet up again in Oschersleben, for the fifth round of the 2007 season. Visiting the Motorsport Arena for the eighth time, the Championship could hardly be closer.



Monza, the fastest track on the calendar, provided a perfect background for an exciting race, which saw the Jetalliance Aston Martin DBR9 of Karl Wendlinger and Ryan Sharp claim its first win, which was also the first win for a DBR9 this season. With Vitaphone's Maserati of Christian Montanari and Miguel Ramos finishing second, and the Carsport Holland Corvette C6 of Mike Hezemans and Jean-Denis Deletraz third, the Drivers Championship is exceptionally close. A grand total of eleven drivers are separated by just three points. As a comparison – after four rounds last year, there were 25.5 points between the first and eleventh drivers !

Coming into Oschersleben, Thomas Biagi is leading the GT1 Drivers Championship, with 21 points. The Italian has good reason to feel confident for the fifth round : a Vitaphone Maserati has won the last two rounds at the German track, while Biagi has two victories to his credit, in 2003 and 2005. Last year, future Champions Michael Bartels and Andrea Bertolini dominated the weekend, claiming pole and the win. This year, Vitaphone leads both the Teams and Drivers classification – even if the latter is only by one point !

One point behind Biagi, Kumpen, Longin, Wendlinger and Ryan are in joint second position, all having scored 20 points. Kumpen and Longin, in the PK Carsport Corvette C5, have scored points at each round, but are still looking for their first win. Wendlinger and Ryan had a difficult start in Zhuhai, but the team is now working smoothly, with the Monza win a suitable reward. Their victory, combined with the first points from the second car of Lechner and Lichtner-Hoyer, has brought the team up to second in the Teams classification.

Vitaphone's Christian Montanari and Miguel Ramos are a further point behind. Montanari, in his first season in GT racing, has now claimed two podiums and two top-three qualifying positions, and is rapidly becoming one of the stars of the season. Paired with the experienced Ramos, the nr 2 Maserati MC 12 is a car to look out for on the Oschersleben circuit, where the car has been particularly successful in previous years.

Another four drivers are on 18 points. This includes the leaders coming into Monza, Christophe Bouchut and Stefan Mücke, who share the nr 7 All-Inkl.com Lamborghini Murciélago. Problems in Monza meant the car failed to finish, but this also reduced their penalty weight by 40 kg, which will be most welcome at the slower, twisting Oschersleben circuit. They are on equal points with Carsport Holland drivers Mike Hezemans and Jean-Denis Deletraz, who finished third in Monza with their Corvette C6-R.

The 'Top Eleven' are closely followed by Bucharest winners Bertolini and Piccini, in the Scuderia Playteam Sarafree Maserati MC 12, and by the leading Aston Martin Racing BMS DBR9 of Jamie Davies and Fabio Babini.

Aston Martin, Corvette, Lamborghini or Maserati ? Home advantage or an away win?

The only thing that is certain about round 5 of the 2007 FIA GT Championship is its unpredictability !



While no pattern has emerged to date in the GT1 class, GT2 has been dominated by one team : 2006 Champions AF Corse Motorola. With four consecutive wins, three for Dirk Müller and Toni Vilander, and one for the Ferrari 430 GT2 of double FIA GT Champion Stéphane Ortelli and former F1 driver Gianmaria Bruni, the team is pulling away from their

rivals. However, both cars will be heavily laden in terms of penalty weight, and while this did not prevent a good performance in Monza, the added ballast may be felt more around Oschersleben's twisting circuit.

In terms of the points, Müller and Vilander have a comfortable 20-point lead, but the battle is fierce for second place, with the next ten drivers separated by six points...

Racing Team Edil Cris has been one of the revelations of this season. Entering two Ferrari 430 GT2 cars, the team finished second and third on their Silverstone debut, and took pole and third place in Monza, playing them second in the Teams classification. With less penalty weight than the AF Corse Motorola cars, they will be a team to look out for in Oschersleben.

Last year, Scuderia Ecosse were victorious in Germany. Fresh from a successful three-day test with Pirelli in Italy, the team is confident that they can soon find their way back to the podium with their Ferrari 430 GT2 cars. They will be joined for Oschersleben by 2006 'GT1 Driver of the Year' Jarek Janis.

Although the Ferrari cars are leading the points in GT2, the Porsches have been much in evidence as well. BMS Scuderia Italia crossed the line first in Zhuhai, although the car was later excluded, and finished second in Bucharest. Without any podium finishes, Ebimotors has been the most consistent, with three fourth places to date, meaning that Zani and Busnelli are the best-placed Porsche drivers, in a close battle with the leading Edil Cris drivers and Scuderia Ecosse's Tim Mullen. Tech9 Motorsport, GT3 Champions in 2006 and competing in GT2 for the first time, have put in some impressive performances on track, with three sixth-place finishes.

Last but not least, new for 2007 is the Citation Cup, a competition for non-professional drivers competing within the GT1 category. An opportunity for GT1 competitors of previous years to get their cars out of the garage and back on the track, bringing cars such as the Ferrari 550 and 575 back to the grid. SRT's Tom Cloet is leading the classification, but the SRT Corvette C5-R he has driven in all three rounds, will miss Oschersleben, due to a clash with the FFSA GT Championship. Should Cloet miss the event, this would give second-placed Joe Macari and Ben Aucott, in the JMB Racing Maserati MC 12, a perfect opportunity to close up the points. This race will also see the return of French driver Antoine Gosse to JMB, sharing the other Maserati MC 12 with his frequent team-mate Peter Kutemann.

The tight and twisting Oschersleben circuit is certain to give yet another excellent round of the 2007 FIA GT Championship. It may be difficult to say who will win ... but the race is sure to be close !



## PROVISIONAL HANDICAP WEIGHTS R5

nr 2 Maserati	+ 50 kg
nr 5 Corvette	+ 20 kg
nr 7 Lamborghini	+ 30 kg
nr 33 Aston Martin	+ 40 kg

nr 50 Ferrari	+ 50 kg
nr 51 Ferrari	+ 35 kg
nr 52 Ferrari	+ 25 kg

All Maserati MC 12 cars have +25kg from the GT Bureau for performance balancing.

All newcomers have 40 kg in GT1 and 20 kg in GT2.

GT2 cars deemed to have two professional drivers have an additional 28 kg

NOTE : Weights from the GT Bureau can be changed up to the day before scrutining for the next event.



## WHAT THEY ARE SAYING...

Thomas Biagi - nr 1 Vitaphone Maserati MC 12 : "I'm happy to be leading the Championship again, but I was sorry not to finish on the podium in Monza, as I had a lot of guests and friends there. I was lucky to be able to get out of the gravel and continue - I had to keep on the throttle, and not brake, which is your instinct. I did a rally before Monza, so perhaps it helped ! I'm looking forward to Oschersleben; it's a circuit where I've had some good results, with two wins in 2003 and 2005. And it's Michael's home race, and he's had two poles there, so it should be good."

Christian Montanari - nr 2 Vitaphone Maserati MC 12 : " I am very satisfied with the results so far; Miguel and I are growing more and more confident with every race. Driving the Maserati is a little bit different from a formula car, but it is really great Thanks to Vitaphone, Maserati and Michelin, I am growing a lot on the professional level. The FIA GT Championship is amazing to me, very nice cars and a high level of drivers and teams. For the Oschersleben race I am very confident, the circuit is nice, with medium-slow curves."

Mike Hezemans - nr 5 Carsport Holland Corvette C6: "The Corvette is normally good in Oschersleben, and we were fastest in second free practice there last year. This year we're confident, and things are going better and better. We don't have too much weight, and the car is good, so we should be competitive."

Stefan Mücke – nr 7 All-Inkl.com Racing Lamborghini Murciélago : "I'm very happy to drive in Oschersleben because it is my home race. I know the track very well. I drove there many years in Formula BMW, German Formula 3 and German Touring Car Masters (DTM). Sure, that's a little advantage for me and my team ALL-INKL.COM Reiter Lamborghini, where I and Christophe Bouchut drive the Lamborghini Murciélago. And we hope after our technical problems in Monza to be among the first places in Oschersleben - which will certainly not be easy. At least we got rid off some of our ballast weight. And another advantage could be that many fans from the region will cheer for me and my team."

Dirk Müller – nr 50 AF Corse Motorola Ferrari 430 GT2 : "I am very much looking forward to my home race. A lot of friends and fans will come to see our race. Oschersleben is a very technical circuit where you need to have the right setup with the right rhythm. Also you have only very little time to recover, therefore you need to be fit. I am also happy to arrive to my home race as the championship leader and even with this solid lead there are a lot of more races to come and we need to focus on each event. The maximum ballast will not help us for the tricky track, but as we managed in Monza, we would like to be on the podium again. "

Damien Pasini - nr 52 Racing Team Edil Cris Ferrari 430 GT2 : "Thanks to a full-season contract signed with Giancristiano Cavalleri, I am optimistic and have confidence in this new team, Edil Cris, which, despite its lack of experience, has a very competitive car. My FIA GT debut has not gone too badly, as I've only taken part in two races and I've had two podiums (Silverstone and Monza). Moreover, Paolo Ruberti is a very good team-mate, and is very experienced. We took part in a Pirelli test after Monza, and we have been able to significantly improve our performance. We hope this will help us in Oschersleben."

Andrew Kirkaldy – nr 63 Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2 :  
"We won here last year from the back of the grid so I'm confident we can get a good result this time around. We've just come back from a productive test at Monza where we managed to make some good improvements. I believe the track has been changed in a few places since the last time we were there: the first corner and the chicane. That will take a bit of getting used to but that's no problem. I'm looking forward to a positive weekend."

## RESULTS FROM R3 2006



### RACE RESULTS - GT1

- 1: Bertolini/Bartels - Vitaphone Racing Team Maserati MC 12
- 2: Davies/Biagi - Vitaphone Racing Team Maserati MC 12
- 3: Piccini/Deletraz - Phoenix Racing Aston Martin DBR9
- 4: Janis/Bert - Zakspeed Racing Saleen S7
- 5: Babini/Gollin - Aston Martin Racing BMS Aston Martin DBR9
- 6: Pescatori/Ramos . Aston Martin Racing BMS Aston Martin DBR9
- 7: Wendlinger / Peter Race Alliance Aston Martin DBR9
- 8: Balfe / Derbyshire Balfe Motorsport Saleen S7

### RACE RESULTS - GT2

- 1: Kinch / Kirkaldy Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2
- 2: Salo/Aguas - AF Corse Ferrari 430 GT2
- 3: Mullen / Niarchos - Scuderia Ecosse Ferrari 430 GT2
- 4: Sugden / Alexander - JMB GruppeM Ferrari 430 GT2
- 5: Collard - Riccitelli - Ebimotors Porsche 996 GT3 RSR
- 6: Melo/Bobbi - AF Corse Ferrari 430 GT2
- 7: Ried / Felbermayr Jr - Team Felbermayr Porsche 996 GT3 RSR
- 8: Moccia/Busnelli - Ebimotors Porsche 996 GT3 RSR



## A CHAT WITH... MICHAEL BARTELS

"Vitaphone has won the last two Oschersleben rounds with the Maserati, so of course we are going to try for the hat-trick. Montanari and Ramos have 50 kg penalty weight, so it will be difficult for them to be at 100% of their performance, but I think Thomas and I have a good chance to be competitive, as we have no ballast.

The circuit suits our car very well, so we will try to do everything we can on our home track, for our home race. I am now fully fit, and I am working hard physically to make up for the time when I couldn't train. Monza was relatively easy in terms of circuits, as you can relax on the long straights, but there is no time to relax at Oschersleben! However, I had a solid winter of preparation and I was able to keep my shape well. And before Oschersleben, we have the Spa test day, when I hope to do some long runs.

Our motivation is high : we are happy to be leading both the Team Championship, and Drivers Championship with Thomas Biagi, even if only by one point. And Maserati is leading the GT1 Manufacturers Cup. However, we have lost too many points over the first four races and we do not have the sort of margin we would like. It will be vital to finish well at Spa, which is not something you can guarantee, especially as the Championship is so close this year. We are preparing the car at this moment.

## A CHAT WITH ... KARL WENDLINGER

"I like Oschersleben a lot. The circuit is totally the opposite to Monza, with no high-speed sections but slow, with tight corners. But I think we will find that we will be as competitive as we were in Monza. The Aston should go well in Germany – we have a set-up now which suits every circuit. The tighter corners may be more favourable to the Maserati, but we saw in Monza that we were not only fast on the straights, but in the tight corners and the chicanes. Of course, we will have 40 kg, which has more effect than on this sort of circuit, but we have a good car and I think we will be competitive. Ryan is also more at ease in the car, and he put in a very good performance in Monza.

I remember the first FIA GT meeting in Oschersleben. The Beretta/Lamy Chrysler Viper was faster than us, and I finished second with David Donohue. A Mercedes GT1 car pushed me into a spin on the back straight, but I was able to recover. I have better memories of 1999, when we had a very good race. It was raining hard during the last stint, but we stayed out on slicks and won the race. I also finished on the podium in 2004 and 2005 – it was only last year that I missed the podium, as it was our first year with the Aston and we were not on the pace yet. But I have good memories of the track.

The Monza victory was very good for the team. We are all very motivated, and working hard. We were competitive in Silverstone and Bucharest too, leading both races, but a combination of slow driver changes and bad luck prevented us finishing on the podium. But in Monza everything went right.

We made some changes and practiced the driver changes a lot, altering the position of the belts slightly. We are still not as fast as the Maserati changes, and there is a big size difference between Ryan and myself, but we do not lose places because of the changeover any more. I am very pleased to be joint second in the Championship after Monza. I think our position shows how much the team has improved. Last year, after round 4, we had only score a few points, while this year we have 20. I am really very happy with that.

## MICHAEL BARTELS



VITAPHONE MASERATI MC 12

Age : 39 - Germany

2006 FIA GT1 Champion

Record at Oschersleben

1998 : 6th in GT1 (Zakspeed Porsche 911 GT1)

2005 : Pole Position (Vitaphone Maserati MC 12)

2006 : Pole Position (Vitaphone Maserati MC 12)

Winner with Andrea Bertolini in the nr 1 Vitaphone Maserati MC 12

## KARL WENDLINGER



JETALLIANCE ASTON MARTIN DBR9

Age : 38 - Austria

1999 FIA GT Champion

Record at Oschersleben

1998 : 2nd in GT2 with D. Donohue (Chrysler Viper Team Oreca)

1999: 1st in GT with O. Beretta /Chrysler Viper Team Oreca)

2004 : 3rd in GT with T. Marques (JMB Ferrari 575 M Maranello)

2005 : 2nd in GT with A. Bertolini (JMB Maserati MC 12)

## ADAC GT MASTERS HEADS FOR OSCHERSLEBEN

After its successful debut at the Nuerburgring beside the 24hrs race, the ADAC GT Masters will head for their second race in Oschersleben. Last year the FIA GT3 European Championship already raced there, showing the German spectators two fantastic races and opening the door for the new ADAC GT Masters.

15 GT3 cars took part at the very first racing weekend of the ADAC GT Masters in early June. The Lamborghini Gallardo dominated at the Nuerburgring, thanks to its aerodynamic set up and the extremely strong driver pairings. Christopher Haase and Gianni Morbidelli won the first race on Friday and also finished on the podium on Saturday. The second race was won by Wolfgang Kaufmann / Alexander van der Lof with their ARGO Lamborghini Gallardo. Haase, aged just 19, and the Italian professional driver Morbidelli, became the first Championship leaders, with 18 points, just ahead of Kaufmann / van der Lof (16) and Jan Seyffarth / Frank Schmickler in the best Porsche 997 Cup with 11 points. Harald Becker and Kenneth Heyer, the only Dodge Viper drivers, are fifth with five points, Ulrich Berberich-Martini and Klaus Ludwig are on seventh position with the fastest of the Corvettes. The single Ferrari entry, under the Kessel Racing banner, has scored no points to date.

For Oschersleben, the ADAC GT Masters is expecting a growing number of participants. Team Mamerow and SMS Seyffarth Motorsport will now start with two Porsche 997 GT3-Cup cars each. Arkin Aka will make his delayed debut in the ADAC GT Masters with his Attempto Team and also one or two additional Porsche 997 Cup cars. They will be classified in the guest category. Together with the Corvette, Dodge and Ferrari entrants, the Porsche teams hope to get their revenge for the Nuerburgring results. The layout of the Oschersleben track should suit these cars even more. While the Nuerburgring was wide and fast, Oschersleben is tight and slower.

The Porsche teams of Mamerow, Seyffarth, Carsport and Aero Sport already know the track well thanks to their efforts in the German Porsche Carrera Cup and Porsche Sports Cup. And even the Martini-Callaway Corvette team is more optimistic after their success in the FIA GT3 European Championship meeting at Monza last weekend. The Corvette Z06.R GT3 dominated all practice and qualifying sessions and also won race one on Sunday morning.

For the next races the ADAC GT Masters hopes to welcome further new teams and cars to the championship. A second Ferrari 430 Challenge GT3 and one or two Aston Martin DBRS9 seem to be possible in a short time. There is also an announcement for an entry of the spectacular Ford GT, which should appear in Hockenheim at the latest.



Nr.	Team		Car	Driver 1		Driver 2	
1	ARGO Racing	BEL	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Wolfgang Kaufmann	GER	Alexander van der Lof	NED
2	SMS Seyffarth Motorsport	GER	Porsche 997 GT3 Cup	Jan Seyffarth	GER	Frank Schmickler	GER
3	SMS Seyffarth Motorsport	GER	Porsche 997 GT3 Cup	Christian Plazeck	GER	Christian Hohenadel	GER
4	Mamerow Racing	GER	Porsche 997 GT3 Cup	Chris Mamerow	GER	Peter Mamerow	GER
5	Mamerow Racing	GER	Porsche 997 GT3 Cup	tba		tba	
6	Reiter Engineering	GER	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Peter Kox	NED	Albert v. Thurn uTaxis	GER
7	Reiter Engineering	GER	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Gianni Morbidelli	ITA	Christopher Haase	GER
8	Reiter Engineering	GER	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Stephano Gabolini	ITA	Achim Winter	GER
9	Waiblinger Motorsport Club	GER	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Benjamin Leuenberger	SUI	Andreas Teichmann	GER
10	All-inkl.com Racing	GER	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Christophe Bouchut	FRA	Rene Münnich	GER
11	Aero Sport Team GmbH	GER	Porsche 997 GT3 Cup	Alfrid Heger	GER	Nikolai Krassin	GER
14	Carsport GmbH Schweiz	SUI	Porsche 997 GT3 Cup	Bruno Eichmann	SUI	Albert Grob	GER
17	GS Motorsport	GER	Dodge Viper	Harald Becker	GER	Kenneth Heyer	GER
24	Martini Callaway Racing	GER	Chevrolet Corvette	Jiri Skula	CZE	Martin Matzke	CZE
25	Martini Callaway Racing	GER	Chevrolet Corvette	Toni Seiler	SUI	tba	
27	Kessel Racing Schweiz	SUI	Ferrari 430	Freddy Kremer	GER	Ralf Presslein	GER
28	Kessel Racing Schweiz	SUI	Ferrari 430	tba		tbs	
32	Gianni Guidici	ITA	Maserati	Gianni Guidici	ITA	tba	
53	Reiter Engineering	GER	Lamborghini Gallardo GT3	Jeroen Bleekemolen	NED	Marius Ritskes	NED

## GT4 EUROPEAN CUP - R2 AT OSCHERSLEBEN

The GT4 European Cup visits Oschersleben for its second round after the series official launch at Silverstone early May. Extending the proven GT3 concept, SRO decided to offer this year a category of racing restricted to road-going production GT cars with the emphasis on reduced running costs.

“We view GT4 as an entry level into GT racing,” says SRO chairman and founder Stéphane Ratel. “It’s a simple concept based on the same balance of performance format we’ve applied with success to GT3, but the cars belong to the second-tier GT category and are allowed only a limited amount of race preparation in order to keep the racing affordable.”

The future of GT4 clearly looks promising as it sets to become a second division of the various national GT3 championships organised by SRO in Great-Britain, France, Belgium and Germany. The 2007 GT3 European Cup includes 5 races and after visiting Silverstone, the series will run at Oschersleben, Spa, Adria and Nogaro. The series debut saw a limited entry as many teams were still in full preparation, but progressively, grids should grow and offer an impressive number of cars by next year.

Current GT4 contenders include the Aston Martin N24, the Mustang FR500C, the Maserati Trofeo, the BMW Z4, the Nissan 350Z, The Porsche Cayman and the Lotus Exige. A diverse selection of cars which produced fierce competition amongst the drivers at Silverstone, where one-time F1 hopeful Jac Nelleman won the first race driving an Aston Martin, and Ford factory driver Gunnar Jeannette took victory in the second heat at the wheel of his Mustang. With a couple of Nissans and BMW Z4 adding to the proceedings in Germany, the Oschersleben GT4 event should prove just as thrilling and spectacular as the first round.



### POINTS AFTER ROUND 1

1	Jacob Nellermann	16
2	Gunnar Jeannette	15
3	Guino Kenis	14
4	Christopher L. Porritt	13
5	Eric De Doncker	8
6	Alistair Mackinnon	5
7	Giuseppe Arlotti	3
8	Gianni Giudici	2
	Kevin Morel	2
9	Joe Tuckey	1



#	Team	Nat	Driver	Nat	Driver	Nat	Car
3	Scuderia Giudici	ITA	Gianni Giudici	ITA			Maserati
4	Scuderia Giudici	ITA	Beppe Arlotti	ITA	Bruno Barbaro	ITA	Maserati
5	Scuderia Giudici	ITA	Claudio Giudici	ITA			Maserati
6	G&A Motorsport	BEL	Guino Kenis	BEL			BMW Z4
14	RJN Motorsport	GBR	Joe Tuckey	GBR			Nissan 350Z
15	Solution F	FRA	Olivier Gomez	FRA			Nissan 350Z
16	Muratet	FRA	Christian Muratet	FRA	Edouard Atkathian	FRA	Nissan 350Z
17	Euroracing Team	CH	TBN				BMW Z4
20	GPR Racing	BEL	Ruben Maes	BEL	Guillaume Dumarey	BEL	Porsche Cayman
21	GPR Racing	BEL	TBN		TBN		Porsche Cayman
23	André Grammatico	FRA	André Grammatico	FRA			BMW Z4
24	Lotus	GBR	TBN				Lotus Exige
98	Thermosulit Motorsport98	BEL	Eric de Doncker	BEL			Mustang FR500C

## LOOKING FORWARD TO ... ROUND 6 - SPA TEST DAY - July 2nd

July 26th - 29th will be the traditional summer highlight of the FIA GT Championship : the Total 24 Hours of Spa. A new title sponsor, newly rebuilt facilities, and the prospect of another fantastic round of the FIA GT Championship.

As usual, the regular teams taking part in the Championship have started to announce their driver line-ups for the 24 Hours, where up to four drivers are allowed per car.

The first opportunity to see many of the cars in action will be on July 2nd, when a number of teams will head for Spa-Francorchamps for the traditional test day.

Open to the press and to the general public, the cars will be testing from 09:00 to 12:00 and 14:30 to 18:00.

For more information on the event, please visit the new website : [www.total24hours.com](http://www.total24hours.com)



### MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Applications for Media Accreditation for this year's race must be received by July 16th at the latest.

Publications based in Belgium should download the form which can be found on [www.total24hours.com](http://www.total24hours.com).

All other publications should apply to the FIA GT Media Delegate, using the application form on [www.fiagt.com](http://www.fiagt.com).

Please note that the deadline for all applications is **July 16th 2007**. **Applications received after that date may be rejected.**

### PK CARSPORT : UNITED FOR BELGIUM !

PK Carsport has started their preparations for the Total 24 Hours of Spa with the announcement of their all-Belgian line-up. Kurt Mollekens and Frédéric Bouvy will join team regulars Anthony Kumpen and Bert Longin for the race. "The idea behind United 4 Belgium is taken from our national motto", explains Kumpen. "L'union fait la force" or in English 'United we stand'."

"Why United 4 Belgium?" Kumpen comments. "Since the start of the GT's at Spa, no Belgian team has ever won the race. The Total 24 Hours of Spa is not only one of races of the FIA GT championship; it's much more than that. It's one of the main endurance races in the world, so United 4 Belgium wants to be the first ever. And motor sport is more than people tend to believe a team sport. So that's why." Anthony Kumpen continues his explanation of the idea: "We also want to do more than only racing. We want the Spa 24 hours to become a real popular event, where the crowd lives the race, rather than to merely watch it. We want the Belgian crowd to support us and the other teams. Starting in front of black-yellow-red grandstands would be fabulous for us!"

The choice of the drivers was an important issue. Bert Longin: "We had to get a strong, complementary line-up. Fred Bouvy and Kurt Mollekens are both ex-winners of the race and they know the 24 hours for years. Up until today, Anthony has won four 24-hour races, myself three, Fred two and Kurt one. And let's not forget that our team has a huge experience in endurance racing and that we will be very motivated in Spa, certainly with the support of the Belgian crowd. We'll also race the latest evolution of the Michelin tyres, so the perfect cocktail to perform well on the 28th and 29th of July in Spa!"



### SRT ANNOUNCES STRONG QUARTET FOR SPA



SRT has competed in three rounds of the FIA GT Championship this year, winning the Citation Cup in all of them. For Spa, however, the Corvette C5-R will have an all-Belgian line-up. "One of my major

ambitions this season was to come to the 24 Hours of Spa with an entirely Belgian team", Patrick Selleslagh explained. "The final choice fell upon Damien Coens, Marc Duez, Maxime Soulet and Steve Vanbellingen and together they form a strong and homogenous team. Moreover they come from various regions of our country which further strengthens the team's overall Belgian identity. We're fostering some pretty healthy ambitions. Let's just say that the top-10 is a must and each place that brings us closer to the top-5 is a triumph in itself."

### JAN CHAROUZ TO JOIN ASTON MARTIN RACING BMS

Young Czech driver Jan Charouz has announced that he will be joining Aston Martin Racing BMS for this year's race, where he will share the nr 22 DBR9 with Ferdinando Monfardini and Enrico Tocacello. Last year, the 19-year-old finished 8th, having shared the Zakspeed Saleen with Sascha Bert, Jarek Janis and Andrea Montermini.



Jan Charouz explained : "I'm really looking forward to the race. I grew fond of the Spa circuit during my debut last year. It's great to be there again and to top it off by driving the GT1 car. I've never driven the Aston Martin DBR9 - I wonder what it is like. This weekend I will race with our Lola B07/17 Judd in the Le Mans Series and as early as Monday I'll be testing the Aston in Spa."



## TELEVISION FOR OSCHERSLEBEN

FIA GT LIVE	CHANNEL	COUNTRY	QUALIFYING	RACE
	7TV	Russia	-	Live
	ART	Middle East	-	Live
	DSF	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Lichchenstein	-	Same Day Delayed 19:30 - 21:30
	Men & Motors	United Kingdom, Eire	Live	Live
	Premiere	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Lichchenstein	-	Live
	Sky Sports Italy	Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican	-	Live
	Sport 1	Netherlands	-	Live
	Sport +	France and French-speaking territories		Live
	Sport TV	Portugal	Live	Same Day Delayed 21:40 -23:40

52' HIGHLIGHTS	CHANNEL	COUNTRY	DETAILS
	ESPN STAR	Asia	16/08/07 time + repeats TBC
	Al Jazeera	Middle East	times not confirmed
	FOX Sports	Australia	times not confirmed
	NTV Plus	Russia, CIS, Baltics	20/07/97 20:45 + 4 repeats
	Nuvolari	Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican	times not confirmed
	Sky Sports UK	United Kingdom, Eire	11/07/07 23.00 + 3 repeats
	Speed Broadband	USA	On Demand
	Speed SA	South America	4 weeks after the race
	TV Berlin	Germany	15/08/07 time tbc
	Zee Sports	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh	21/08/07 time + repeats tbc
		Channel 4	United Kingdom, Eire
	RTL Club	Belgium	14/08/07 22:30

26'

FIA GT news	PROGRAMME NAME	DISTRIBUTION	PROGRAMME LENGTH	FOOTAGE
	Maxpower	170	52'	5'
	Motorsport Mundial	73	26'	5'
	Planet speed	217	26'	5'
	Weekend Sportif	RTBF (Belgium)	10	5'
	Speed Action	AB3 (Belgium)	2	7'
	SNTV	198 countries	NEWS PROVIDER - FIA GT	

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### MEDIA ACCREDITATION

For last-minute International Accreditation, please contact Jacquie Groom on [jacquie@sro.co.uk](mailto:jacquie@sro.co.uk).

### MEDIA ACCREDITATION CENTRE

Located on the right-hand side of the main road leading from Oschersleben to the Motorsport Arena. The opening hours are :

08:00 - 18:00 on Friday and Saturday

08:00 - 12:00 on Sunday

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The media centre will have wireless internet connections. The price will be 5 euros per 24-hour period.

## RACE WEEKEND CONTACTS

Jacquie Groom  
Media Delegate  
email : [jacquie@sro.co.uk](mailto:jacquie@sro.co.uk)  
tel : +41 79 206 4661

Reports, Results, Live Timing and Photo Gallery available on [www.fia.gt.com](http://www.fia.gt.com),  
Photos copyright DPPI / FIA GT

# MAP - Press Accreditation / Welcome Center

