

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

15 – 20 April 2007

MENU FASTEST IN OSCHERSLEBEN TEST

Fifteen drivers took part in the official test at Oschersleben, on Monday and Tuesday. The weather was mostly sunny and warm.

Alain Menu and his Chevrolet Lacetti clocked the fastest lap of 1:34.956 over the two days on Tuesday morning; the Swiss stepped in for Nicola Larini who had tested on Monday. On Tuesday afternoon most of the drivers managed to improve their lap times, however nobody was able to top Menu's time.

Jörg Müller (BMW Team Germany) emerged as the second fastest, only 0.011 seconds slower than Menu; the German driver had clocked the fastest lap on Monday at 1:35.209, with 15 minutes left in the session. Another Chevrolet man, Robert Huff, completed the top-three, although he was not able to break the 1:35. wall. Jordi Gené and Tiago Monteiro of SEAT Sport set the fourth and fifth fastest times respectively.

All drivers covered a great deal of kilometres and, like in the previous test at Brno, BMW drivers topped this list by far. Jörg Müller completed 129 laps on Tuesday, for a total of 228 over the two days, which equate to 842.6 km or 16 WTCC races! Andy Priaulx and Augusto Farfus followed him with 215 and 211 laps apiece.

Alessandro Zanardi nearly missed the whole first day due to illness. Stefano D'Aste of Wiechers-Sport was the only Independent to take part in the test. At the wheel of a BMW Motorsport's test car, Claudia Hürtgen was committed to technical tests.

	Monday	Tuesday
Alain Menu (Chevrolet Lacetti)		1:34.956
Jörg Müller (BMW 320si)	1:35.209	1:34.967
Robert Huff (Chevrolet Lacetti)	1:35.497	1:35.094
Jordi Gené (SEAT León)		1:35.150
Tiago Monteiro (SEAT León)	1:35.428	1:35.190
Augusto Farfus (BMW 320si)	1:35.681	1:35.267
Andy Priaulx (BMW 320si)	1:35.648	1:35.384
Gabriele Tarquini (SEAT León)	1:35.474	
Nicola Larini (Chevrolet Lacetti)	1:35.619	
Félix Porteiro (BMW 320si)	1:35.854	1:35.728
Alessandro Zanardi (BMW 320si)	1:40.476	1:36.091
Michel Jourdain (SEAT León)		1:36.101
Claudia Hürtgen (BMW 320si)	1:36.434	1:36.293
Yvan Muller (SEAT León)	1:36.401	
Stefano D'Aste (BMW 320si)	1:36.954	1:36.453

TEST DAYS – official timing













FIA WTCC WORKSHOP IN MUNICH

A large representative of sponsors, partners, manufacturers, sport marketing experts and press gathered in Munich's Marriott Hotel for the launch of the 2007 European phase of the FIA WTCC that will start in Zandvoort on May 6th.

A two-hour workshop was devoted to supply general information, benchmarks and an overview on the series' new partners. In the afternoon Ulrich Lacher of IFM, the institute that is the FIA WTCC's new partner for media analysis, presented their methodology. Later KSO board member and Eurosport Vice-president Jacques Raynaud gave an overview on the FIA WTCC and its strategic targets.

NEW PARTNERS: MARRIOT AND MONROE

The workshop in Munich was also the occasion to welcome the series' two new partners: Courtyard by Marriot and Monroe.

Frank Zehle, Vice-President Brand Marketing Continental Europe, signed on behalf of Courtyard by Marriott the new partnership agreement between the FIA WTCC and the international hotel group. Monroe was represented by Martina Balazsova, European Marketing Manager. Monroe will combine branding activities around the series with team sponsorship and VIP hospitalities.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR THE SECOND MEETING

Rounds 3 and 4 of the 2007 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Zandvoort, Netherlands, 5^{th} and 6^{th} May.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 24th April.

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:

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TV and Radio must send applications to:

Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport tel +33 1 40938517, fax +33 1 40938002; email: <u>antonios@eurosport.com</u>

COUNTDOWN: - 16 DAYS



to the 2007 FIA WTCC Race of Netherlands – 5th/6th May, in Zandvoort

more information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com