



ROUTE TO: PAU, FRANCE

The 7th and 8th rounds of the FIA WTCC will take place next week in France, on the historical street circuit of Pau. This is the championship's second visit to the old city on the Pyrenées, home of the Grand Prix de Pau since 1930.

Last year, Alain Menu and his Chevrolet Lacetti dominated the first race with a lights to flag victory after setting pole position in the Saturday's qualifying session. SEAT Sport's Frenchman Yvan Muller and his Portuguese team-mate Tiago Monteiro completed the podium.

The second race was won by BMW Team Germany's Augusto Farfus, who completed an amazing recovery after having rolled his car in qualifying at the infamous Monument bend. The Brazilian youngster crossed the line ahead of BMW Team UK's Andy Priaulx and Monteiro.

61 EXTRA KILOS FOR TARQUINI

As a consequence of his stretched championship lead, SEAT Sport's Gabriele Tarquini will carry the heaviest ballast in Pau. The Italian's León TDI will be loaded with 61 kilos of success ballast, 13 more than Robert Huff, who was the most successful driver in Valencia with 18 points scored.

Jordi Gené (39 kg), Jörg Müller (35 kg) and Alain Menu (34kg) are the other drivers with more than 30 kg of ballast. Rickard Rydell and Yvan Muller, who are joint seconds in the championship, will both have 28 extra kilos, only one more than Andy Priaulx, who is BMW's best placed man in the points.

A total of fifteen drivers will have success ballast in Pau, including the race-by-race entry Oscar Nogués who will receive 30 extra kilos according to article 79 c) of the Sporting Regulations.

Success ballast - France

61 kg	G. Tarquini
48 kg	R. Huff
39 kg	J. Gené
35 kg	J. Müller
34 kg	A. Menu
30 kg	O. Nogués
28 kg	R. Rydell, Y. Muller
27 kg	A. Priaulx
12 kg	T. Monteiro
10 kg	T. Coronel
9 kg	F. Porteiro, N. Larini
3 kg	A. Farfus
1 kg	O. Tielemans

GRAND PRIX DE PAU LAUNCHED YESTERDAY

The 68th Grand Prix de Pau WTCC Race of France was launched yesterday at the Quartier Libre shopping mall, where BMW, Chevrolet and SEAT show cars were exhibited.

Alain Menu, winner of last year's first race in Pau and last week's second race in Valencia attended the event, together with the city's Mayor Mrs Martine Lignères-Cassou and Jean-Paul Pasquet, president of the ASAC Basco Béarnais.

Large media representative attended the press conference. *"We are absolutely delighted to welcome the World Championship again,"* said the Mayor. *"This year's event will be remembered because of an exceptional range of races and it will also grant the city of Pau an enormous exposure thanks to the WTCC's worldwide TV coverage."*

OSCAR NOGUÉS TO RACE IN PAU

Oscar Nogués Farré is the first competitor of the new SEAT Eurocup to be awarded with a participation in the FIA WTCC. The 31-year old Spaniard will race in Pau at the wheel of a petrol-powered SEAT León TFSI run by the SUNRED Engineering Development team.

After his fellow countryman José Manuel Pérez-Aicart was given the same opportunity in Valencia for having won the 2007 SEAT León Supercópa (he performed very well, finishing both races in 13th and 14th position respectively), Nogués was awarded with the WTCC participation because he emerged as the best driver in the first round of the Eurocup at Valencia, where he won Race 1 and finished second in Race 2.

Nogués is not a rookie in the WTCC; in the previous seasons he had been already awarded twice with WTCC participations for his two consecutive titles in the 2005 and 2006 Supercópa. He raced at Valencia in 2006 and Monza in 2007 and his best result was 12th in last year's Monza's Race 1.

NEW LOCATION FOR PAU MEDIA CENTRE

This year the media centre at Pau will be located inside the WTCC paddock and not in Palais Beaumont like in 2007.

Accredited media are suggested to book their own working places at the centre's welcome desk as soon as possible.

Photographer tabards may also be collected at the media centre's welcome desk, against a deposit of euro 20.

The team/media car park will be located in Place de Verdun. A free-of-charge shuttle service between the car park and Boulevard Aragon (where the accreditation centre is located) or the Railway Station (close to the paddock) will be provided by the STAP (Société des Transports de l'Agglomération de Pau) on Sunday, June 1st, from 8.30 to 11.30 and from 15.30 to 18.30.

BMW 320D IN NÜRBURGRING 24H

BMW's WTCC works drivers Augusto Farfus and Jörg Müller will drive a Super 2000-spec diesel-powered BMW 320d this weekend in the Nürburgring 24 hour race. The car will be run by the Schubert Motors outfit, while Farfus and Müller will share driving duties with Scandinavians Fredrik Ekblom and Stian Sorlie.

The BMW 320d that will be raced in the 24-hours is fitted with the same type of engine that BMW have been using in the BMW 120d car for endurance racing. A machine that proved to be very successful in the 2006 Nürburgring 24-hours, finishing the race in a brilliant fifth place, ahead of many more powerful cars.

This will be Farfus' maiden experience on the infamous 25-km Nürburgring Nordschleife.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR BRNO

Rounds 9 and 10 of the 2008 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Brno, Czech Republic, 14th and 15th June.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 3rd June.

The Accreditation form may be downloaded at the websites www.fia.com and www.fiawtcc.com.

✉ **International Press** must send applications to:

Fabio Ravaoli - FIA WTCC Media Delegate

tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: media@fiawtcc.com

✉ **Czech Press** must send applications to:

Lenka Nestrojilová

tel: 0546 123320, fax: 0546 123337; email: nestrojilova@automotodrombrno.cz

✉ **TV and Radio** must send applications to:

Antonios Argyropoulos - Eurosport Events

tel +33 1 40938517; email: antonios@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 9 DAYS



to the 2008 FIA WTCC Race of France - 31st May / 1st June, in Pau

To download the newsletter, entry list, track facts and timetable in PDF format click [HERE](#)
More information and pictures: www.fiawtcc.com

Fabio Ravaioli - FIA WTCC Media Delegate
Mobile: +39 335 376260
Email: media@fiawtcc.com

