

FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER

24 – 20 June 2008

EUROSPORT EVENTS MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURED

The Eurosport Group announced today that Jacques Béhar has left his role as Chairman and CEO of Eurosport Events, the group's event organisation and promotion subsidiary. Géraldine Filiol, currently Deputy Managing Director in charge of Rights Acquisitions, succeeds Jacques Béhar at the helm of Eurosport Events as Managing Director.

Géraldine Filiol continues her role as Deputy Managing Director, Rights Acquisitions, for the Eurosport Group, with Julien Bergeaud, Director of Rights Acquisitions & Sales, taking over full responsibility of the rights department. Julien Bergeaud will continue to report to Géraldine Filiol.

Laurent-Eric Le Lay, Chairman & CEO of the Eurosport Group, adds the role of Chairman & CEO of Eurosport Events. Jacques Raynaud, Vice Chairman of the Eurosport Group, becomes equally Vice Chairman of Eurosport Events.

Jacques Béhar leaves Eurosport Events after 17 years with the Eurosport Group to pursue personal interests. Jacques Behar initially joined Eurosport in 1992 as Director of Finance & Administration. In 2003, he was appointed as Managing Director mainly in charge of Finance & Administration before he in 2004, and was then put in charge of the development of Eurosport Events.

TARQUINI STRETCHED POINT LEAD

A record crowd of 59,000 attended the WTCC weekend in Brno and they were rewarded with two exciting races.

In the first one Alessandro Zanardi converted his pole position in his third WTCC victory (after Oschersleben in 2005 and Istanbul in 2006). The Italian was followed by his team-mate Félix Porteiro who completed the greatest result ever achieved by Roberto Ravaglia's ROAL Motorsport. Chevrolet's Alain Menu completed the podium in third position.

The second race was one of the most exciting ever seen in Touring Car competitions. Lap after lap countless overtaking moves and clashes thrilled the spectators, until Gabriele Tarquini's SEAT León TDI and Zanardi's BMW 320si negotiated the last two turns door-to-door, with the former winning by inches. Augusto Farfus inherited third place after Robert Huff's Chevrolet was excluded due to a technical infringement.

After ten of the twenty-two rounds in the WTCC calendar, Tarquini has been the only driver to score more than one victory. He has also stretched his championship lead to 15 points ahead of his team-mate Yvan Muller, while another SEAT Sport man, Rickard Rydell, is third a further six points adrift. Reigning world champion Andy Priaulx of BMW Team UK is fourth, 24 points behind, and the first non-SEAT driver. In the Manufacturers Championship, SEAT lead with a margin of 21 points ahead of BMW.

The series will resume at Estoril, Portugal, on July 13th for rounds 11 and 12.

TEST DAY AT MONZA ON THURSDAY

Nine teams will take part with seventeen cars in next week's official WTCC test session at Monza's racetrack, on Thursday, June 26th.

The test is the last one of the four that have been organised by championship promoter KSO during the current season, after Valencia, Oschersleben and Brno.

Testing will begin at 9.00 and will go on until 18.00, with one-hour lunch break from 13.00 to 14.00.

The teams that take part are: BMW Team UK (1 car), BMW Team Germany (2), BMW Team Italy-Spain (2), Chevrolet (2), SEAT Sport (5), N.technology Honda (1), Borusan Otomotiv (1), SUNRED (1), Liqui Moly Team Engstler (2).

Journalists and photographers who wish to be accredited for the test are kindly requested to contact the circuit's press officer Gianni Cattaneo (gianni.cattaneo@acimi.it).

THE BRNO TRACK FOR CHARITY

Charity auction cubes cut from of the old racetrack surface of the Brno circuit raised more than 200,000 CZK (about 8,000 euros) for young patients of the Oncology Ward of the University Children's Hospital in Brno.

The first charity auction took place as part of the gala opening of the resurfaced racetrack on 18th May 2008. Five cubes signed by MotoGP aces Valentino Rossi, Casey Stoner, Dani Pedrosa, Jorge Lorenzo and Loris Capirossi were sold for 115,000 CZK. Seventeen other cubes signed by MotoGP riders and Czech racing drivers were auctioned on-line for 86,850 CZK.

Last week the WTCC podium finishers – Zanardi, Tarquini, Porteiro, Menu and Huff – also signed cubes that will be auctioned later this year.

The money will be mostly spent on new medical equipments.

SLOVENIAN STUDENT WINS CHEVROLET PRIZE

Last Saturday in Brno the 2008 Visual Art 'Young? Creative? Chevrolet!' competition came to an end with the election of the best design of a new decoration for the Lacetti race car among various projects presented by young European students.

The project 'breaks through' by the Slovenian Adi Sumic received the best appreciations because: *"...it shows great freedom and creativity: this is a unique approach, out of the box; it embodies the young spirit of the contest."*

Second and third prizes went to Rafael Gonçalves and Ricardo Trindade from Portugal and to Clémence Pineton de Chambrun from France respectively.

The winner will be invited to Imola, where the livery he has designed will decorate Alain Menu's racing car, to spend the WTCC weekend with the Chevrolet team.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR ESTORIL

Rounds 11 and 12 of the 2008 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Estoril, Portugal, 12th and 13th July.

The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 1st July.

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

- **International Press** must send applications to:
Fabio Ravaioli – FIA WTCC Media Delegate
tel +39 06 39729497, fax +39 06 39729470, email: media@fiawtcc.com
- **Portuguese Press** must send applications to:
Pedro Castelo – tel: 021 4135380, fax: 021 4120553
email: pcastelo@talento.pt
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to:
Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport Events
tel +33 1 40938517; email: antonios@eurosport.com

COUNTDOWN: - 23 DAYS



to the 2008 FIA WTCC Race of Portugal – 12th / 13th July in Estoril