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Oggetto: FIA GT CHAMPIONSHIP - NEWS UPDATE #4



NEWS UPDATE #4

FEBRUARY 23rd

The deadline for full-season entries for the 2008 FIA GT Championship is growing steadily closer, and more news is coming in concerning the 2008 driver line-ups.

Furthermore, the shakedown and testing season is now in full swing, with a number of teams preparing for the forthcoming races. This should culminate in the Official Test Days for the FIA GT Championship, in Monza on March 13th and 14th. Open to GT1, GT2, GT3 and GT4 cars, [all the information on the test days](#), including entry forms, can be found on the FIA GT website. Members of the press wishing to attend the Media Day on March 13th, including the launch press conference for the 2008 season, should contact [Jacquie Groom](#).

On to this week 's news...

Having won the FIA GT1 Teams Championship for the past three years, [Vitaphone Racing Team](#) was testing at the Portuguese circuit of Estoril this week with their Michelin-shod Maserati MC 12 cars. The Maserati press office announced that Andrea Bertolini and Michael Bartels would once again pair up as they did in 2006, when they won the FIA GT1 title. Young Brazilian GP2 star, Alexandre Negrão, will share the second drive with experienced driver Miguel Ramos, from Portugal, who won in Brno last year. Negrão is the son of Xandy Negrão, who won the inaugural Brazilian GT3 Championship with Andreas Mattheis.

[Belgian team SRT](#) confirmed that it will enter a new Corvette C6R in the 2008 FIA GT Championship. The team won three rounds of the Citation Cup in 2007. The driver line-up for 2008 is not yet known, but team owner Peter Selleslagh commented : "It is going to be a fast duo, make sure you note that down !"

Another leading Belgian team in the GT1 category, [PK Carsport](#), rolled out their [Saleen S7-R](#) at the French circuit of Croix-en-Ternois. "The roll out went very well. Our main objective was to get a feel of the car as drivers, as well as to check the car, which we completely rebuilt during the past weeks," Anthony Kumpen explained. The team will next test in the south of Spain, with Pirelli.

New British team [CR Scuderia](#) had a positive first shakedown at the British circuit of Snetterton. After the freezing fog had lifted, the team ran its two GT2 Ferrari 430s on Michelin tyres for the first time, with Kirkaldy, Mullen and Bell on hand to drive. The team will now head south for some sunnier testing.

[Phoenix Carsport Racing](#) confirmed their 2008 plans for two Corvette C6R cars : "We are proud that our partnership with Jean Denis Deletraz and the Swiss internet platform for forex business ACM.ch now already goes in the third year and the successful co-operation with Carsport and Mike Hezemans will be continued! Our new partnership with GMAC makes it possible to run a second car and so we could compete in the fight for the team-championship," explained Ernst Moser, CEO of Phoenix Racing.

For more information, please visit www.fiagt.com or contact Jacquie@sro.co.uk

