

## **FIA WTCC NEWSLETTER**

**# 8 – 28 February 2008**

### **WTCC FOR CHARITY IN CURITIBA**

The FIA WTCC Race of Brazil will again be making a contribution towards the aid of the starving people of Brazil. Together KSO, the championship promoter; HSBC, partner of the event; and the City Hall of Curitiba, repeated the initiative of offering free tickets to the public in exchange for two kilograms of food.

Fans wishing to attend the races on Sunday may collect the tickets by delivering the food to twelve different collection points scattered over the city, or at the racetrack's ticket office on Sunday morning.

The food collected will be donated by HSBC and the City Hall of Curitiba to the charity society Instituto Pró-Cidadania de Curitiba, which will distribute it to those in need.

In 2007 this humanitarian initiative resulted in the collection of 24 tonnes of food, or the equivalent of 120/150 thousand meals.

### **WTCC DRIVERS MEET FANS AND MAYOR**

Official proceedings to the WTCC season of 2008 got underway today in the centre of Curitiba. A promotional day began with the drivers meeting the fans in two crowded autograph sessions in front of the HSBC palace, on the central Ruas das Flores.

Two FIA WTCC racing cars – Jordi Gené's SEAT and Andrey Romanov's BMW – were exhibited in front of the building.

In the afternoon the drivers joined the Mayor of Curitiba, Mr Beto Richa, Marcello Lotti, general manager of KSO, Mr Glen Valente, Marketing Director of HSBC, and Mr Guilherme Pimentel director of TIM – Regional Sul, for a press conference and cocktail reception attended by large representation of media, at the elegant Wyn Lounge & Japanese Art.

### **DELAYED START FOR N.TECHNOLOGY**

The N.technology team announced yesterday that they will not take part in the FIA World Touring Car Championship's season-opener taking place this weekend in Curitiba, Brazil.

The Italian team were due to make their maiden race with the Honda Accord Euro R Super 2000 car driven by the Briton James Thompson who classified third in the 2007 FIA WTCC.

However, in spite of all the effort to be ready in time, the team eventually decided to skip Curitiba and begin their season later on, in order to focus on the technical development of the Japanese car.

N.technology's decision means that twenty-one cars will compete in the championship's first event of the year.

### **WTCC ON THE YAHOO! EUROSPORT PLATFORM**

Five new online areas dedicated entirely to WTCC on the Yahoo! Eurosport internet platform have been launched.

The new sections are produced in five languages – English, French, German, Italian, Spanish – and accessible from the Motorsport section at the following urls:

- UK: <http://uk.eurosport.yahoo.com/motorsport/fiawtcc/>
- France: <http://www.eurosport.fr/fiawtcc/>
- Germany: <http://de.eurosport.yahoo.com/motorsport/fiawtcc/>
- Spain: <http://es.eurosport.yahoo.com/motor/fiawtcc/>
- Italy: <http://it.eurosport.yahoo.com/motori/fiawtcc/>

The FIA WTCC's website [www.fiawtcc.com](http://www.fiawtcc.com) continues its service in English and remains the only official source of information for all partners and media.

On the eve of the 2008 season's opening, fans are able to keep up to date with the very latest news about the championship, the drivers, the teams and events. They are also able to use the embedded Eurosport player to watch LIVE race action, interviews and highlights, as well as use the forum to react and offer opinions.

### **MEDIA ACCREDITATION FOR PUEBLA**

Rounds 3 and 4 of the 2008 FIA World Touring Car Championship will take place at Puebla, Mexico, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April.

**The deadline to apply for media credentials is Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March.**

The Accreditation form may be downloaded at the websites [www.fia.com](http://www.fia.com) and [www.fiawtcc.com](http://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](mailto:media@fiawtcc.com)
- **Mexican Press** must send applications to:  
Rodolfo Sánchez Noya  
tel: +52 55 646697, fax: +52 55 640786, email: [rsancheznoya@yahoo.com.mx](mailto:rsancheznoya@yahoo.com.mx)
- **TV and Radio** must send applications to:  
Antonios Argyropoulos – Eurosport  
tel +33 1 40938517, fax +33 1 40938002; email: [antonios@eurosport.com](mailto:antonios@eurosport.com)

**COUNTDOWN: - 3 DAYS**



to the 2008 FIA WTCC Race of Brazil – 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> March, in Curitiba