



Communications Motorsport

Eva-Maria Becker

Tel: +49 841 8933922

E-mail: eva-maria.becker@audi.de

www.audi-mediacyenter.com/en

Audi celebrates first WEC victory this season at Spa

- **Audi R18 wins with Lucas di Grassi/Loïc Duval/Oliver Jarvis**
- **Audi's 16th race success in FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC)**
- **106th LMP sports car victory of the brand with the four rings**

Ingolstadt/Spa, May 7, 2016 – Audi has won the unusually tough second round of the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) at Spa-Francorchamps. In temperatures above 25 degrees centigrade, in the end only two of the six hybrid sports cars from all manufacturers that had started finished at the front of the field in Belgium. Victory with a two-lap advantage was celebrated by Lucas di Grassi/Loïc Duval/Oliver Jarvis (BR/F/GB) following an impeccable race in their Audi R18.

The spectators in Belgium witnessed the most thrilling WEC round in a long time. At various times of the 6-hour race, each of the three brands was leading with a clear advantage at least once, but the heat and an action-packed race took their toll. Under the eyes of Matthias Müller, Chairman of the Management Board of Volkswagen AG, and Dr. Stefan Knirsch, Member of the Management Board of AUDI AG for Technical Development, Audi Sport Team Joest was the most successful squad. Lucas di Grassi started the race in car number '8' before his teammate Loïc Duval, followed by Oliver Jarvis, took over the cockpit. After six hours of racing with several yellow periods, numerous sports penalties, accidents and technical defects in the field, the trio celebrated its first joint victory. Di Grassi was pleased about his first-ever winners' trophy with Audi, whereas Jarvis had previously scored one and Duval even four sports car victories with Audi.

"Today, the drivers, the team and the technology had to show real endurance qualities," said Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. "I am very happy about the first joint victory clinched by Lucas, Loïc and Oliver. Sincere congratulations on their impeccable performance." It was Audi's 106th LMP success in total since the 2000 season.



The number '7' sister car had no chance on this occasion after Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/Benoît Tréluyer (CH/D/F) suffered several setbacks. In a duel, Tréluyer drove over a kerb so hard that the damaged underfloor had to be changed. After the car spent 14.30 minutes in the pits for this to be replaced, the air ducts had to be cleaned at a later stage, which cost further time. When Marcel Fässler touched a car in front of him, the team had to change the hood of his race car. In addition, number '7' received a drive-through penalty for this incident. In the end, the driver trio battled its way forward to position five overall. As a result, Audi scored 40 points in the manufacturers' classification.

The next commitment for Audi Sport in the WEC will be the test day at Le Mans on June 5. There, the squad is going to prepare for Audi's 18th participation in the 24-hour race that will be held on June 18 and 19 this year.

Race results

- 1 Di Grassi/Duval/Jarvis (Audi R18) 160 laps
- 2 Dumas/Jani/Lieb (Porsche) –2 laps
- 3 Imperatori/Kraihamer/Tuscher (Rebellion) –4 laps
- 4 Heidfeld/Piquet/Prost (Rebellion) –5 laps
- 5 Fässler/Lotterer/Tréluyer (Audi R18) –5 laps
- 6 Rossiter/Trummer/Webb (CLM-AER) –9 laps
- 7 Lapierre/Menezes/Richelmi (Alpine) –9 laps
- 8 Cumming/Dalziel/Derani (Ligier-Nissan) –9 laps
- 9 Bradley/Merhi/Rao (Oreca-Nissan) –9 laps
- 10 Albuquerque/Gonzalez/Senna (Ligier-Nissan) –9 laps

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The Audi Group, with its brands Audi, Ducati and Lamborghini, is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium segment. It is present in more than 100 markets worldwide and produces at 16 locations in twelve countries. In the second half of 2016, the production of the Audi Q5 will start in San José Chiapa (Mexico). 100-percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy).

In 2015, the Audi Group delivered to customers approximately 1.8 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,245 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and about 54,800 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2015 financial year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €58.4 billion and an operating profit of €4.8 billion. At present, approximately 85,000 people work for the company all over the world, about 60,000 of them in Germany. Audi focuses on new products and sustainable technologies for the future of mobility.