Audi MediaInfo



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Audi driver Jamie Green gives himself a gift

- · Grid position three in DTM race at the Lausitzring
- Audi newcomer celebrated his 31st birthday on Friday
- · Audi in strong position with four RS 5 DTM cars in top eight

Ingolstadt/Klettwitz, June 15, 2013 – Audi newcomer Jamie Green gave himself a gift a day after his 31st birthday. The Briton from Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline in qualifying for the DTM race at the Lausitzring (Sunday starting at 13:15, local time, live on "Das Erste") took third place as the best Audi driver.

Green in his Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM showed a remarkable performance right in the morning, driving the fastest lap in free practice. In the afternoon, he managed to battle his way into the crucial qualifying segment for the first time since switching to Audi and secured position three on the grid with a strong lap in Q4. "The first three races with Audi weren't optimal for me," said Green. "I had to get used to the car and the team first. But now I'm back. This morning, I was the quickest and now in qualifying the fastest Audi driver. I'm happy and hoping to finish on the podium tomorrow. Mercedes was very strong today but they were very strong here last year as well."

A total of four Audi drivers will be starting the race from the first four rows on Sunday. The runner-up in the standings, Mike Rockenfeller (Schaeffler Audi RS 5 DTM/Audi Sport Team Phoenix), will start alongside front runner Bruno Spengler from the third row. Adrien Tambay (Audi ultra RS 5 DTM) und Edoardo Mortara (Playboy Audi RS 5 DTM/Audi Sport Team Rosberg) are sharing the fourth row.

Mortara's team-mate Filipe Albuquerque (Audi Financial Services RS 5 DTM) achieved the thirteenth-fastest time but is moving up to position twelve because BMW driver Augusto Farfus received a five-position grid penalty due to a violation in free practice. Miguel Molina (Audi RS 5 DTM) was struck by major misfortune: The Spaniard achieved the ninth-best time in Q1 but due to a technical problem on the driveline was unable to participate in Q2 and will therefore start from position 16.

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Qualifying ended in disappointment for Timo Scheider (AUTO TEST Audi RS 5 DTM) and Mattias Ekström (Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM): Both two-time DTM Champions, in 17^{th} and 18^{th} place respectively, were eliminated right in Q1.

"Today, we've seen how quickly the tables can turn," commented Dieter Gass, Head of DTM at Audi Sport. "BMW most recently was regarded as dominant and suddenly Mercedes is very strong here – especially in sector one. We're not unhappy with four RS 5 DTM cars in the top eight, although the gap to the front runners is unusually large considering what the gaps typically are in the DTM. I'm hoping for this to change tomorrow. It's nice that the showing by our 'birthday child' Jamie Green was on the mark for the first time today with respect to what we expected of him. And Mike Rockenfeller, our driver with the highest points score, has got a decent starting base with position six on the grid as well."

Fans around the world can watch the fourth DTM race of the year live on the DTM's new YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/dtmint. 39 TV channels in total air live DTM coverage in 141 countries. In Germany, ARD will start to broadcast live from the Lausitzring on "Das Erste" at 13:15.

- End -

The Audi Group delivered 1,455,123 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2012. In 2012, the company posted revenue of €48.8 billion and an operating profit of €5.4 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). The Audi Q7 is built in Bratislava (Slovakia). In November 2012, CKD production of the Audi Q7 was added to the existing Audi A4, A6 and Q5 manufacturing operations in Aurangabad (India). At the Brussels plant, production of the Audi A1 has been running since 2010, while production of the new A1 Sportback began in 2012. The Audi Q3 has been built in Martorell (Spain) since June 2011. The company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft. (Győr, Hungary), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.Á. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy), AUDI BRUSSELS S.A./N.V. (Brussels, Belgium), quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm and the sports motorcycle manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). Audi currently employs more than 70,000 people worldwide, including around 50,000 in Germany. The brand with the four rings plans to invest a total of around €11 billion by 2015 - mainly in new products and the expansion of production capacities - in order to sustain the company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" claim. Audi is currently expanding its site in Győr (Hungary) and will start production in Foshan (China) in late 2013 and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) in 2016.

Audi lives up to its corporate responsibility and regards sustainability not only as a basis for financial success, but also as essential to ensure a worthwhile future for the generations to come. The company has therefore strategically established sustainability as a principle for its products and processes. Corporate responsibility includes fuel-efficient products, resource-efficient production processes, a future-oriented and fair personnel policy, effective involvement in society and responsible business operations in general. This gives the motto of "Vorsprung durch Technik" a new dimension that extends far beyond the products. The ultimate goal is CO_2 -neutral mobility.