

Communications Motorsport

Jürgen Pippig
Tel: +49 841 89-34200
E-mail: juergen.pippig@audi.de
www.audi-motorsport.info

Daniel Schuster
Tel: +49 841 89-38009
E-mail: daniel2.schuster@audi.de

Audi is hoping for third victory at Valencia

- **Spanish round of the DTM**
- **Audi and Mattias Ekström unbeaten so far at Valencia**
- **Home race for Audi driver Miguel Molina**

Ingolstadt/Valencia, September 21, 2012 – On the last September weekend, the DTM is returning to the venue that in previous years was firmly in Audi's hands: at the Circuit de la Comunitat Valenciana Ricardo Tormo on the outskirts of the Spanish coastal city Valencia, the brand with the four rings has been unbeaten in the DTM thus far.

The DTM has visited the race track that is primarily known from the MotoGP racing series twice before. And both times, Audi had something to celebrate. Mattias Ekström won in 2010 and 2011 after having started from the pole position at both events. Last year, the brand even achieved a 1-2-3-4-5-6 result and thus an early title win by Martin Tomczyk.

This year, after the unfortunate race at Oschersleben, Audi no longer has any chance of winning the drivers' championship. The battle for the manufacturers' championship in which Audi is the runner-up with a deficit of only 29 points is still open though. A total of 202 points are yet to be awarded in the two remaining races at Valencia and Hockenheim.

Mike Rockenfeller is traveling to Valencia as the Audi driver with the highest points score. For his Spanish team-mate Miguel Molina, the race on the 4.005-kilometer track that is driven counter-clockwise is a home round.

For the Audi A5 DTM, the circuit is not new territory. Before the season started, several DTM tests were held at Valencia, which means that the three Audi teams have basic data they can build on. However, the further technical development has not come to a halt since then – not even in the short time span between the races at Oschersleben and Valencia.

ARD will broadcast the qualifying session (Saturday, September 29, starting at 13:35 local time) and the race (Sunday, September 30, starting at 13:45 local time) live as usual. Tickets for the Spanish round of the most popular international touring car racing series are available in advance for prices starting as low as three euros.

Quotes by the officials

Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich (Head of Audi Motorsport): “After the disappointing weekend at Oschersleben we’re looking ahead to the race at Valencia. This is a track with completely different characteristics than the circuit at Oschersleben. We’re hoping to be able to draw on a similar performance from our cars as we last did at Zandvoort. Our maxim is: hard work and full concentration on the race at Valencia.”

Hans-Jürgen Abt (Team Director Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline): “We’ve got fond memories of Valencia where we clinched victories in both races of the past two years with Mattias Ekström. Since we’ve been lacking fortune in racing this year we’ve got to be careful about making predictions. But our aim is to prove that we’re capable of winning. We won’t give up until we’ve brought the first victory home.”

Ernst Moser (Team Director Audi Sport Team Phoenix): “Naturally, we’re looking forward to Valencia because that’s where we became champion last year. ‘Eki’ won there both times. If we can find the speed again that we had there we’ll be in contention again. We’ll try and do our homework as best we can.”

Arno Zensen (Team Director Audi Sport Team Rosberg): “I’ve got fond memories of Valencia as well. Last year, we finished in second place there with Filipe (Albuquerque). Maybe we can repeat that. In any event, we’ll be giving our maximum.

Facts and quotes by the Audi drivers

Filipe Albuquerque (27/P), TV Movie Audi A5 DTM #22 (Audi Sport Team Rosberg)

- Was the runner-up last year at Valencia
- Scored points six times this season

“I’ve got fond memories of Valencia and think the track should be suiting our A5 better than Oschersleben did. Last year, I took my first podium there. I haven’t managed to do that yet this year. I’m going to continue to fight for that.”

Mattias Ekström (34/S), Red Bull Audi A5 DTM #3 (Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline)

- Has not been beaten in qualifying and the races at Valencia to date
- Scored his 600th point in the DTM at Oschersleben

“I’ve had two fantastic weekends at Valencia: pole twice and winning twice. A hat-trick this year would of course be a dream. But at the moment, we’re very very much rooted to the soil. That’s why it would simply be nice to have a solid weekend from the beginning through to the end.”

Rahel Frey (26/CH), E-POSTBRIEF Audi A5 DTM #17 (Audi Sport Team Abt)

- Took 14th place at Valencia last year
- Most recently showed strong performances particularly in qualifying

“Valencia will be a challenge for the Audi team that we enjoy taking up, and this also goes for me personally. I’m happy to be returning to Valencia. Last year, I drove a good race there. Unfortunately, I’ve now had two consecutive retirements, so I’ve got quite a bit to make up for at Valencia.”

Miguel Molina (23/E), Red Bull Audi A5 DTM #10 (Audi Sport Team Phoenix)

- Is the only one of the two Spaniards in the 2012 DTM with points to his tally
- Is contesting his 30th DTM race at Valencia

“Of course I’m particularly looking forward to Valencia. It’s my home round and that always gives me a lot of additional motivation. A large number of Spanish fans will be there to support me. We know that it’ll be another tough weekend. But at the last race at Oschersleben we made some progress in qualifying. I’m starting into my home race with a good feeling.”

Edoardo Mortara (25/I/F), Playboy Audi A5 DTM #21 (Audi Sport Team Rosberg)

- Experienced a difficult weekend last year at Valencia
- Has already won two DTM races this season

“After a difficult race at Oschersleben I’m hoping for things to go better again at Valencia and that we can score a good result. I’m pretty optimistic that this’ll be the case.”

Mike Rockenfeller (28/D), Schaeffler Audi A5 DTM #9 (Audi Sport Team Phoenix)

- Before the last two races is the Audi driver with the best points score
- Is tackling his 60th DTM race at Valencia

“I’m happy to be traveling to Valencia – especially after the weekend at Oschersleben. I’m hoping that the track will suit us better than Oschersleben – hopefully as well as Zandvoort did. I’m going to give everything again to clinch the best result for Audi. And obviously I’d love to be in contention for victory.”

Timo Scheider (33/D), AUTO TEST Audi A5 DTM #4 (Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline)

- Clinched the pole position for Audi at Zandvoort
- Finished the races at Valencia in the top five each time so far

“Valencia was the weekend on which we clinched the title for Audi last year – so from that point of view we’ve got positive memories. But when comparing the character of the race tracks at Valencia and Oschersleben I do have a bit of respect for the race. Of course we want to do better than we did last weekend.”

Adrien Tambay (F/21), Audi ultra A5 DTM #18 (Audi Sport Team Abt)

- Scored his first DTM points at Zandvoort
- Knows the circuit at Valencia from tests in the Audi A5 DTM

“Oschersleben was disappointing for me because we were very unfortunate despite our good work and didn’t achieve the deserved result. At Valencia, I drove the Audi A5 DTM for the first time – I’ve got positive memories of that. Plus, the race is held in the south – I always like that.”

The Audi drivers in the 2012 DTM

Filipe Albuquerque (P): * Jun 13, 1985 in Coimbra (P); residence: Coimbra (P); single; height: 1.74 m; weight: 64 kg; Audi driver since 2011; DTM races: 18; pole positions: 0; victories: 0 (best result: 2nd place); fastest laps: 0; points: 23; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Valencia: 2

Mattias Ekström (S): * Jul 14, 1978 in Falun (S); residence: Salenstein (CH); single (partner Heidi), one son (Mats); height: 1.83 m; weight: 77 kg; Audi driver since 1999; DTM races: 122; pole positions: 19; victories: 17; fastest laps: 12; points: 600; DTM titles: 2 (2004, 2007); best result, DTM Valencia: 1

Rahel Frey (CH): * Feb 23, 1986 in Niederbipp (CH); residence: Aedermannsdorf (CH); single; height: 1.63 m; weight: 50 kg; Audi driver since 2011; DTM races: 18; pole positions: 0; victories: 0 (best result: 12th place); fastest laps: 0; points: 0; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Valencia: 14

Miguel Molina (E): * Feb 17, 1989 in Girona (E); residence: Lloret de Mar (E); single; height: 1.75 m; weight: 62 kg; Audi driver since 2010; DTM races: 29; pole positions: 2; victories: 0 (best result: 3rd place); fastest laps: 1; points: 34; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Valencia: 5

Edoardo Mortara (I/F): * Jan 12, 1987 in Geneva (CH); residence: Geneva (CH); single; height: 1.82 m; weight: 75 kg; Audi driver since 2011; DTM races: 18; pole positions: 1; victories: 2; fastest laps: 0; points: 95; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Valencia: 16

Mike Rockenfeller (D): * Oct 31, 1983 in Neuwied (D); residence: Altnau (CH); single (partner Susanne); height: 1.75 m; weight: 67 kg; Audi driver since 2007; DTM races: 59; pole positions: 1; victories: 1; fastest laps: 2; points: 149; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Valencia: 7

Timo Scheider (D): * Nov 10, 1978 in Lahnstein (D); residence: Lochau (A); single (partner Jessica), one son (Loris); height: 1.78 m; weight: 74 kg; Audi driver since 2006; DTM races: 127; pole positions: 10; victories: 6; fastest laps: 9; points: 373; DTM titles: 2 (2008, 2009); best result, DTM Valencia: 4

Adrien Tambay (F): * Feb 25, 1991 in Paris (F); residence: Lochau (A); single; height: 1.81 m; weight: 69 kg; Audi driver since 2012; DTM races: 8; pole positions: 0; victories: 0; (best result: 5th place); fastest laps: 0; points: 10; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Valencia: –

DTM drivers' standings after 8 of 10 rounds

1 Gary Paffett (Mercedes-Benz)	127 points
2 Bruno Spengler (BMW)	116 points
3 Jamie Green (Mercedes-Benz)	108 points
4 Mike Rockenfeller (Audi)	75 points
5 Edoardo Mortara (Audi)	74 points
6 Martin Tomczyk (BMW)	69 points
7 Mattias Ekström (Audi)	66 points
8 August Farfus (BMW)	29 points
9 Christian Vietoris (Mercedes-Benz)	24 points
10 Timo Scheider (Audi)	19 points
11 Dirk Werner (BMW)	17 points
12 David Coulthard (Mercedes-Benz)	14 points
13 Andy Priaulx (BMW)	14 points
14 Robert Wickens (Mercedes-Benz)	14 points
15 Filipe Albuquerque (Audi)	14 points
16 Adrien Tambay (Audi)	10 points
17 Miguel Molina (Audi)	8 points
18 Ralf Schumacher (Mercedes-Benz)	8 points
19 Joey Hand (BMW)	2 points



DTM manufacturers' standings

1 Mercedes-Benz	295 points
2 Audi	266 points
3 BMW	247 points

DTM team standings

1 THOMAS SABO/Mercedes-Benz Bank AMG	151 points
2 BMW Team Schnitzer	133 points
3 Mercedes AMG	116 points
4 Audi Sport Team Rosberg	88 points
5 Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline	85 points
6 Audi Sport Team Phoenix	83 points
7 BMW Team RMG	71 points
8 BMW Team RBM	43 points
9 DHL Paket/stern Mercedes AMG	28 points
10 Audi Sport Team Abt	10 points

Audi DTM statistics

Champion's titles: 8 (in 15 years)
 Victories: 63 (in 202 races)
 Pole positions: 67 (in 167 qualifying sessions)
 Fastest laps: 54 (in 202 races)

All Valencia winners

2011 Mattias Ekström (Audi)

2012 Mattias Ekström (Audi)

2011 flashback: 1-2-3-4-5-6 victory for Audi

With a 1-2-3-4-5-6 result and an early title win Audi managed to crown the 2011 DTM season at Valencia. After starting from the pole position, Mattias Ekström celebrated his third victory of the season, Filipe Albuquerque behind him took his first podium finish, and Martin Tomczyk in third place the champion's title. Tomczyk, after starting from position ten on the grid, managed a perfect recovery: right on the first lap, he was in sixth place and in third after his second stop.

Track info

Track length: 4.005 km

Race distance: 46 laps = 184.230 km

DTM qualifying record on this track: Mattias Ekström (Audi), May 22, 2010, 1m 29.565s (160,978 km/h)

DTM race record on this track: Mattias Ekström (Audi), May 23, 2010, 1m 30.971s (158.490 km/h)

Pole position 2011: Mattias Ekström (Audi), 1m 30.608s (159.125 km/h)

Fastest lap 2011: Timo Scheider (Audi), 1m 32.267s (156.264 km/h)

Turnout 2011: 16,000

TV live rating 2011: 1.01 million / 9.6 % market share (source: ARD)

Miguel Molina about Valencia: “For a driver, the main special aspect no doubt is the fact that we drive counter-clockwise. Most race tracks run in the opposite direction. Valencia has a few very fast turns – such as turn 1 and turn 8. The second and the last turn offer possibilities for overtaking. Another thing that makes Valencia special is that it’s usually very hot here. This affects the tires and the technology, and the drivers’ fitness is particularly important here. I personally like Valencia: it’s my DTM home round. All of my friends and a large number of fans are here and the atmosphere is really great. That’s a special motivation for me.”

Timetable

Friday, September 28

09:45–10:15 Roll-out

10:15–10:20 Starting practice

13:35–15:25 Free practice 1

15:25–15:30 Starting practice

Saturday, September 29

09:00–10:50 Free practice 2

13:40–14:50 Qualifying

Sunday, September 30

10:20–10:50 Warm-up

14:00 Race

TV schedule ("Das Erste" live)

Saturday, September 29

13:35–15:00 Qualifying

Sunday, September 30

13:45–15:35 Race

– End –

The Audi Group delivered 1,302,659 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2011. In 2011, the Company posted revenue of €44.1 billion and an operating profit of €5.3 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 July 2010, CKD production of the Audi Q5 was added to the existing Audi A4 and A6 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 amongst others AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft. (Győr/Hungary), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese/Italy), AUDI BRUSSELS S.A./N.V. (Brussels/Belgium), quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm and the sports bike manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna/Italy). Audi currently employs around 65,000 people worldwide, including around 48,000 in Germany. Between 2012 and 2016 the brand with the four rings is planning to invest a total of €13 billion – mainly in new products and the extension 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 has long been fulfilling its social responsibility on many levels – with the aim of making the future worth living for generations to come. The basis for Audi's lasting success is therefore formed by environmental protection, the conservation of resources, international competitiveness and a forward-looking human resources policy. One example of AUDI AG's commitment to environmental issues is the Audi Environmental Foundation. Within the context of "Vorsprung durch Technik," which extends far beyond its products, the Company is directing its activities toward a major goal – comprehensive CO₂-neutral mobility.