

Communications Motorsport

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Audi names start drivers for Le Mans

- **McNish, Rockenfeller and Prémat start at 3:00 p.m.**
- **Heart stopping moments for Kristensen & Werner in the warm-up**

Ingolstadt/Le Mans – Audi Sport Team Joest named the drivers who will sit at the wheel of the three Audi R15 TDI to start the 77th running of the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

Starting driver of the Audi R15 TDI with start number “1” is the Scot Alan McNish, who was the fastest Audi driver in Thursday evening’s qualifying with a lap time of 3m 23.65s (240.925 km/h). The other two Audi R15 TDI are driven at the start by Mike Rockenfeller and Alexandre Prémat.

As is usually the case at Audi Sport Team Joest, the Audi drivers will then complete their stints during the race in alphabetical order:

Audi R15 TDI #1: McNish > Capello > Kristensen

Audi R15 TDI #2: Rockenfeller > Werner > Luhr

Audi R15 TDI #3: Prémat > Bernhard > Dumas

The Audi R15 TDI will pit for refueling as planned about every 45 minutes. Subject to strategy two or four stints in succession are planned before the tires and drivers are changed.

During Saturday morning’s warm-up Audi Sport Team Joest concentrated on checking the race set-up of the cars. All nine drivers drove. Furthermore, driver and tire changes were also practiced.



There were heart stopping moments for both Tom Kristensen and Marco Werner: The Le Mans record winner had to drive through the gravel bed at the Dunlop Chicane because a cable became detached in the pedal box of his Audi R15 TDI and jammed the throttle pedal open. Marco Werner spun at the chicane before the start-finish when he had to swerve to avoid a GT2 car.

The start of the 77th running of the 24 Hours of Le Mans is at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. Eurosport broadcasts almost the entire race live.

- Ends -

Photographs and information available at www.audi-motorsport.info

AUDI AG sold a total of 1,003,469 cars in 2008 and thus achieved its 13th consecutive record year. The Company posted new record figures with revenue of €34.2 billion and profit before tax of €3.2 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). Aurangabad in India saw the start of CKD production of the Audi A6 at the end of 2007 and of the Audi A4 in early October 2008. The Company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include Automobili Lamborghini Holding S.p.A. in Sant'Agata Bolognese (Italy) and quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm. Audi currently employs around 58,000 people worldwide, including 46,500 in Germany. The brand with the four rings invests around €2 billion each year in order to sustain the company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" slogan. Audi plans to significantly increase the number of models in its portfolio by 2015 to 42. The AUDI brand celebrates its 100th birthday in 2009. The company was founded by August Horch in Zwickau on July 16, 1909; he named it AUDI after the Latin translation of his surname ("hark!").