

Communications Motorsport

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Audi ready for final sprint in DTM title fight

- **Mike Rockenfeller travels to Oschersleben as leader of the standings**
- **Audi driver has won at venue near Magdeburg twice before**
- **Head of DTM Dieter Gass: “Aiming for a solid team performance”**

Ingolstadt, September 6, 2013 – Round eight now marks the beginning of the hot phase in the battle for the DTM title. Audi driver Mike Rockenfeller is traveling to Oschersleben (September 13 to 15) with an advantage of 35 points. The squad from Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm is banking on a strong team performance in the final sprint of the season.

Mike Rockenfeller and his brand colleagues have fondest memories of the 3.696-kilometer track near Magdeburg – first and foremost, Timo Scheider. He has contested a total of 13 races at Oschersleben before and thus holds the top mark in the current driver field. Scheider won the race at Oschersleben in his two championship-winning years of 2008 and 2009. Mattias Ekström entered his name on the winners’ list in 2011 and Mike Rockenfeller, in his second race, celebrated his first-ever DTM podium position there in May 2007.

Now the 29-year-old German is traveling to Oschersleben as the leader of the standings. The parameters before the race are positive: Rockenfeller has a 35-point advantage over his closest rival Christian Vietoris and 75 points are yet to be awarded. If Rockenfeller consecutively scores again in the eighth race he will be able to create an optimum starting base for the remaining two races at Zandvoort and Hockenheim.

Since the DTM’s comeback in 2000 the circuit at Oschersleben has been a venue on the series’ calendar of events and has made for thrilling races on numerous occasions. A notorious track section is the narrow left-right combination at the end of the start-finish straight, which is conducive to extremely close maneuvers. Aside from the finish straight, the back-straight offers a good opportunity for using the Drag Reduction System (DRS) that flattens the rear wing flap angle when the driver pushes a button on the steering wheel. Ideal for the fans is the total view of the infield from several grandstands, which assures that they will not miss any of the actions by the DTM race drivers.

Tickets for all DTM races of the 2013 season are available at www.audi-motorsport.com/dtm. In many countries of the world fans can watch qualifying and the race live on the DTM's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/dtmint.

In Germany, ARD will broadcast live on 'Das Erste:' qualifying on Saturday (September 14) starting at 14:30 and the race on Sunday (September 15) starting at 13:15.

Quotes by the officials

Dieter Gass (Head of DTM): "We're looking toward Oschersleben with excitement. So far, we've been showing a consistently good performance this season and have always been far at the front with at least one driver. Building on this and putting as many cars as possible into the top group through a solid team performance has got to be the aim."

Hans-Jürgen Abt (Team Director Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline): "We're looking forward to Oschersleben. The track has suited our car well in the past and our drivers have clinched many victories there. We'd like to continue this and thus support Mike (Rockenfeller) in his battle for the DTM title as well."

Ernst Moser (Team Director Audi Sport Team Phoenix): "Thinking of Oschersleben primarily brings back positive memories of this track. Mike (Rockenfeller) has mounted the podium there before and Miguel (Molina) has been on pole there once as well. Thus, I'm confident that we'll be in contention in the race again."

Arno Zensen (Team Director Audi Sport Team Rosberg): "We used the summer break to take a breather and to tackle the last three races with new momentum. My squad is looking forward to Oschersleben: New game, new luck."

Facts and quotes by the Audi drivers

Filipe Albuquerque (28/P), Audi Financial Services RS 5 DTM #6 (Audi Sport Team Rosberg)

- At the Nürburgring, just barely missed scoring the first points this year
- Finished in the top ten at Oschersleben in 2012

"I know the track at Oschersleben well and drove there in junior categories before competing in the DTM. Our performance at the Nürburgring has encouraged us. I'm not giving up and will go all out to finally score my first points this season."

Mattias Ekström (35/S), Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM #11 (Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline)

- Won the race at Oschersleben two years ago
 - Has mounted the podium four times in ten DTM runs at Oschersleben to date
- “Oschersleben has been both good and bad to me in all these years. With only three more races to go you can tell how the level of suspense is rising a bit with everybody – that’s good I think. I’m still lacking a real victory this year and I’m going to continue to battle for this.”

Jamie Green (31/GB), Red Bull Audi RS 5 DTM #12 (Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline)

- Most recently finished in the points twice in succession
 - Has been on podium at Oschersleben three times before
- “Predictions are extremely difficult this season. I’d like to work with concentration, continue to improve and be back on podium as soon as possible.”

Miguel Molina (24/E), Audi RS 5 DTM #20 (Audi Sport Team Phoenix)

- Started from the pole position at Oschersleben in 2011
 - Scored his first points in the 2013 season at the Nürburgring
- “Following the upward trend at the Nürburgring, I’m now all the more excited about Oschersleben. This track has a special meaning for me because this is where I clinched my first pole position two years ago.”

Edoardo Mortara (26/F/I), Playboy Audi RS 5 DTM #5 (Audi Sport Team Rosberg)

- Was on podium at Oschersleben in his debut year of 2011
 - Started the race at the Nürburgring from the second row
- “Even though Oschersleben isn’t exactly my favorite track I believe that we’ll be competitive. I’m wishing for a better weekend than the first seven this year. The summer break has been good for taking a breather again.”

Mike Rockenfeller (29/D), Schaeffler Audi RS 5 DTM #19 (Audi Sport Team Phoenix)

- Claimed the first podium position in his DTM career at Oschersleben
 - Has been one of the two drivers to score points in all races of the season to date
- “Oschersleben is very challenging in terms of driving skills and very rough on the car as well. I’ve always enjoyed the track. We’re working on being well sorted again and starting the weekend with a good basic set-up. I’m looking forward to Oschersleben and am eager to see how the relative strengths will pan out.”

Timo Scheider (34/D), AUTO TEST Audi RS 5 DTM #23 (Audi Sport Team Abt)

- Scored his first-ever DTM race win at Oschersleben in 2008
- Has 13 starts at Oschersleben under his belt – more than any other driver in the field

“Of course Oschersleben immediately makes me think of my first DTM victory, which I clinched in 2008 and that was a big step toward the subsequent title win. I used the summer break to clear my mind again after all the previous misfortune. That has worked well, so I’m traveling to Oschersleben with the resulting motivation.”

Adrien Tambay (22/F), Audi ultra RS 5 DTM #24 (Audi Sport Team Abt)

- At the Nürburgring, finished in the points for the second time in 2013
- Is the third-best Audi driver in the standings three races before the end of the season

“Oschersleben is a nice race track. Last year, I was a bit unfortunate in the race. Hopefully, that’ll be different this time. My aim, again, is a good result in the points.”

The Audi drivers in the 2013 DTM

Filipe Albuquerque (P): * June 13, 1985 in Coimbra (P); residence: Coimbra (P); single (partner Joana); height: 1.74 m; weight: 65 kg; Audi driver since 2011; DTM races: 27; pole positions: 0; victories: 0 (best result: 2nd place); fastest laps: 0; points: 35; DTM titles: 0; best result DTM Oschersleben: 9

Mattias Ekström (S): * July 14, 1978 in Falun (S); residence: Salenstein (CH); single (partner Heidi), one son (Mats); one daughter (Hanna); height: 1.83 m; weight: 79 kg; Audi driver since 1999; DTM races: 131; pole positions: 19; victories: 17; fastest laps: 12; points: 653; DTM titles: 2 (2004, 2007); best result DTM Oschersleben: 1 (2011)

Jamie Green (GB): * June 14, 1982 in Leicester (GB); residence: Monaco (MC); married to Ginny, two sons (Zachary and William); height: 1.78 m; weight: 70 kg; Audi driver since 2013; DTM races: 90; pole positions: 6; victories: 8; fastest laps: 13; points: 381; DTM titles: 0; best result DTM Oschersleben: 3

Miguel Molina (E): * February 17, 1989 in Barcelona (E); residence: Lloret de Mar (E); single; height: 1.75 m; weight: 64 kg; Audi driver since 2010; DTM races: 38; pole positions: 2; victories: 0 (best result: 3rd place); fastest laps: 1; points: 38; DTM titles: 0; best result, DTM Oschersleben: 8

Edoardo Mortara (F/I): * Jan 12, 1987 in Geneva (CH); residence: Geneva (CH); engaged; height: 1.82 m; weight: 75 kg; Audi driver since 2011; DTM races: 27; pole positions: 1; victories: 2; fastest laps: 0; points: 105; DTM titles: 0; best result DTM Oschersleben: 3

Mike Rockenfeller (D): * Oct 31, 1983 in Neuwied (D); residence: Landschlacht (CH); single (partner Susanne); height: 1.75 m; weight: 68 kg; Audi driver since 2007; DTM races: 68; pole positions: 3; victories: 3; fastest laps: 3; points: 265; DTM titles: 0; best result DTM Oschersleben: 3

Timo Scheider (D): * Nov 10, 1978 in Lahnstein (D); residence: Lochau (A); single (partner Jessica), one son (Loris-Romeo); height: 1.78 m; weight: 72 kg; Audi driver since 2006; DTM races: 136; pole positions: 11; victories: 6; fastest laps: 9; points: 385; DTM titles: 2 (2008, 2009); best result DTM Oschersleben: 1 (2008, 2009)

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: 17; pole positions: 0; victories: 0 (best result: 2nd place); fastest laps: 1; points: 48; DTM titles: 0; best result DTM Oschersleben: 16

DTM drivers' standings after seven of ten rounds

1 Mike Rockenfeller (Audi)	106 points
2 Christian Vietoris (Mercedes-Benz)	71 points
3 Robert Wickens (Mercedes-Benz)	70 points
4 Bruno Spengler (BMW)	67 points
5 Augusto Farfus (BMW)	66 points
6 Gary Paffett (Mercedes-Benz)	57 points
7 Marco Wittmann (BMW)	39 points
8 Mattias Ekström (Audi)	38 points
9 Dirk Werner (BMW)	26 points
10 Joey Hand (BMW)	26 points
11 Adrien Tambay (Audi)	20 points
12 Daniel Juncadella (Mercedes-Benz)	20 points
13 Jamie Green (Audi)	20 points
14 Timo Glock (BMW)	15 points
15 Timo Scheider (Audi)	12 points
16 Martin Tomczyk (BMW)	10 points
17 Roberto Merhi (Mercedes-Benz)	8 points
18 Miguel Molina (Audi)	4 points
19 Pascal Wehrlein (Mercedes-Benz)	3 points
20 Edoardo Mortara (Audi)	2 points
21 Andy Priaulx (BMW)	2 points

DTM manufacturers' standings

1 BMW	251 points
2 Mercedes-Benz	229 points
3 Audi	202 points

DTM team standings

1 STIHL/AMG Mercedes	141 points
2 Audi Sport Team Phoenix	110 points
3 BMW Team Schnitzer	93 points
4 BMW Team RBM	92 points
5 EURONICS/THOMAS SABO Mercedes AMG	65 points
6 Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline	58 points
7 BMW Team MTEK	54 points
8 Audi Sport Team Abt	32 points
9 stern/AMG Mercedes	23 points
10 BMW Team RMG	12 points
11 Audi Sport Team Rosberg	2 points

Audi DTM statistics in the DTM (since 1990)

Champion's titles: 8 (in 16 years)
Victories: 65 (in 205 races)
Pole positions: 70 (in 169 qualifying sessions)
Fastest laps: 56 (in 205 races)
Podium positions: 204 (in 205 races)

All Oschersleben winners since 2000

2000 Manuel Reuter (Opel), Manuel Reuter (Opel), Uwe Alzen (Opel), Bernd Schneider (Mercedes-Benz)
2001 Marcel Fässler (Mercedes-Benz)
2004 Tom Kristensen (Audi)
2005 Gary Paffett (Mercedes-Benz)
2006 Tom Kristensen (Audi)
2007 Gary Paffett (Mercedes-Benz)
2008 Timo Scheider (Audi)
2009 Timo Scheider (Audi)
2010 Paul Di Resta (Mercedes-Benz)
2011 Mattias Ekström (Audi)
2012 Bruno Spengler (BMW)

2012 flashback: Audi without racing luck

Following the commanding one-two-three victory in the previous round at Zandvoort, Audi occupied positions six, eight, nine and ten after having suffered a lot of misfortune on the starting lap. In front of 71,000 spectators, Mike Rockenfeller, in sixth place, was the best-placed Audi driver. Mattias Ekström stopped at the start and dropped from fifth to 19th place. Afterward, he was the fastest driver in the field some of the time, recovered one position after another and advanced into the points again. In the end, Ekström took eighth place. Filipe Albuquerque, in ninth place, scored two points. One point, for tenth place, remained for Timo Scheider.

Track info

Track length: 3.696 km

Race distance: 51 laps = 188.496 km

DTM qualifying record on this track: Dirk Werner (BMW), Sep 15, 2012, 1m 20.632s (165.016 km/h)

DTM race record on this track: Roberto Merhi (Mercedes-Benz), Sep 16, 2012, 1m 22.752s (160.789 km/h)

Pole position 2012: Bruno Spengler (BMW), 1m 20.916s (Q4).

Fastest lap 2012: Roberto Merhi (Mercedes-Benz), 1m 22.752s (160.789 km/h)

Turnout 2012: 71,000

TV live rating 2012: 1.07 million / 9.3 % market share (source: ARD)

Timo Scheider about Oschersleben: “There’s hardly any other track in my book that combines so many different characters of turns. With the artificial braking chicane in turn 1 an additional opportunity for overtaking has been created. The ultra-fast right-left-right chicane on the other side of the track eats a lot of material but also requires great sensitivity. If you run the curbs a bit too hard you might damage the car or careen off the track. There’s a slow hairpin, an ultra-long 180-degree turn, a fast and a slow chicane and in the infield there’s even a banked corner. I’ll never forget the day of my first DTM victory at Oschersleben in 2008 – that’s when a big load came off my chest after all those years. All this combined makes Oschersleben so special for me.”



Timetable

Friday, September 13

18:00–18:15 Roll-out

Saturday, September 14

09:10–10:40 Free practice

14:40–15:50 Qualifying

Sunday, September 15

09:10–09:40 Pit stop practice

13:30 Race

TV Schedule (“Das Erste” live)

Saturday, September 14

14:30–16:00 Qualifying

Sunday, September 15

13:15–14:45 Race

– End –

In 2012, the Audi Group delivered 1,455,123 cars of the Audi brand to its customers, generated revenue of €48.8 billion and achieved an operating profit of €5.4 billion. The Audi Group is globally present in more than 100 markets and produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium), Bratislava (Slovakia), Martorell (Spain), Kaluga (Russia), Aurangabad (India), Changchun (China) and Jakarta (Indonesia). The brand with four rings will produce cars also in Foshan (China) as of late 2013 and in San José Chiapa (Mexico) starting in 2016. AUDI AG’s wholly owned subsidiaries include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant’Agata Bolognese, Italy) and the sports motorcycle manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). The Group currently employs more than 70,000 people worldwide, including around 50,000 in Germany. Total investment of approximately €11 billion is planned by 2015 – mainly in new products and sustainable technologies. Audi lives up to its corporate responsibility and has strategically established the principle of sustainability for its products and processes. The long-term goal is CO₂-neutral mobility.