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Motorsport

Audi rejects criticism by Heinz-Harald Frentzen

- **Statement regarding TV interviews after DTM finale**

Former Formula 1 driver Heinz-Harald Frentzen stated in TV interviews following the DTM finale at Hockenheim that he had not been treated fairly by Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline during the 2006 season and had not been accepted within the Audi squad. AUDI AG wishes to comment on these statements.

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Head of Audi Motorsport Dr Wolfgang Ullrich: "I can understand that Heinz-Harald Frentzen is deeply disappointed after the race at Hockenheim. He started from the pole position and was hoping to claim his first victory in the DTM. But the race did not go for him as expected. He was overtaken by Bruno Spengler, gave away valuable time when driving off from his second pit stop and was spun by a team-mate shortly before crossing the finish line. It is understandable that he is less than delighted about this. Making mutual accusations in public, such as those voiced by Heinz-Harald on television, are not Audi's style. We assume that Heinz-Harald made his comments as an initial response to the disappointment he suffered and will see things differently with a certain detachment. Everyone at Audi Sport and Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline has been fully committed to enabling Heinz-Harald to achieve good results. He had the same material as his team-mates and the full support of the entire Audi squad in a season that was difficult for all of us. We are now going to take a quick decision as to whether or not there will be a joint future for Heinz-Harald Frentzen and Audi. I'm disappointed by him."

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**Photographs, sound bites and additional information on the Internet:
www.audi-motorsport.info (Accreditation necessary)**