



Communications Motorsport

Jürgen Pippig

Tel: +49 841 89-35550

E-mail: juergen.pippig@audi.de

www.audi-motorsport.info

Audi set on battling for victory at Spa

- **Three R18 e-tron quattro cars in second WEC race**
- **Two aerodynamic versions of the hybrid sports car on the grid**
- **WEC debut for Filipe Albuquerque**

Ingolstadt, April 25, 2014 – For the first time this year, Audi will be entering three R18 e-tron quattro cars in the WEC race at Spa (Belgium) on May 3 – at round two of the FIA World Endurance Championship. The preparation phase for this event was particularly intensive. The accident damage sustained by the two cars in the season opener resulted in a lot of work.

The two accidents at Silverstone (Great Britain) were unfortunate for Audi in two respects. For the first time ever, the team of Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich and Chris Reinke, Head of LMP, had to endure the retirement of all cars and the total loss of valuable championship points. The incidents caused considerable vehicle damage. The two monocoques of the hybrid sports cars were damaged. Consequently, cars number '1' and '2' had to be prepared again completely from scratch. As a result, the WEC World Champions at Audi are tackling an extreme workload between Easter and May 1.

In comparison, the preparation of the third race car seems almost like a routine task. Audi has traditionally been using the 6-hour race at Spa to prepare its Le Mans squad for the year's most important endurance race. Whereas Lucas di Grassi/Löic Duval/Tom Kristensen (BR/F/DK) and Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/Benoît Tréluyer (CH/D/F) compete in all eight World Championship rounds, the #3 R18 e-tron quattro will exclusively run at Spa and in the Le Mans 24 Hours. Belgium will see Marco Bonanomi (I) returning to the race car cockpit. Alongside Bonanomi, Filipe Albuquerque (P) will be celebrating his WEC debut with Audi after switching from touring cars to sports cars last winter. Oliver Jarvis (GB) has been released from the race at Spa and the test day at Le Mans – he will be battling for Championship points in the Japanese Super GT racing series at the same time. For the Le Mans 24 Hours, he will return to the R18 e-tron cockpit as the team-mate of Albuquerque and Bonanomi.



At Spa, car #3 continues an idea which Audi tested for the first time last year. The additional race car has a different body that can be recognized at first glance by the longer rear overhang. Its use in Belgium is very valuable for the Audi engineers, as the data generated by car #3 assists in validating the simulations which Audi previously performed. By the same token, the team can test how to handle the special body version and other technical modifications in racing conditions.

All three Audi driver squads are united in pursuing a single aim on the 7.004-kilometer circuit in the Ardennes with its unique combination of turns. Following the victories in 2012 and 2013, Audi is set on battling for the best positions at Spa again in 2014. The fastest single lap set by Tom Kristensen in qualifying at Silverstone and the best race lap achieved by André Lotterer show that the diesel hybrid sports car from Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm is fast on a single lap in the battle with Porsche and Toyota. In Belgium, Audi will be able to see for the first time whether this also strategically applies across the entire race distance when the effects of the energy regulations and the different ratings of the three hybrid concepts manifest themselves in the field.

Topics of the weekend

- Will qualifying be as thrilling as it was at Silverstone?
- What race strategy will result from the requirements of the new regulations?
- Will Audi be able to continue its good form this year as in the past at Spa?
- How will Filipe Albuquerque and Marco Bonanomi fare in their first joint WEC commitment?

Quotes by the officials

Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich (Head of Audi Motorsport): "We've got to prepare two new cars between now and Spa, which imposes an extreme load on the squad. Then we're going to concentrate on running an impeccable race. At Spa, we want to rectify the unfortunate race at Silverstone. In the past years, Spa was a very good track for us."

Chris Reinke (Head of LMP): "We're definitely going to attack again at Spa! Within only two weeks, the team has had to handle a tough workload. After the somewhat rocky start of the season at Silverstone, it's now particularly important for us to focus on our next tasks until Le Mans. The squad has to get used to its processes. But Spa is more than just a test for Le Mans. We aim to win in Belgium and score points for the WEC."

Ralf Jüttner (Team Director Audi Sport Team Joest): “We all have the aim of showing that Silverstone was an absolute exception. We’re now in the unusual position of the hunter and need to score points. The team will be giving everything. We’ll be on the grid with three newly prepared cars. We’re definitely not lacking motivation. We’re going to strike back.”

Facts and quotes by the Audi drivers

Lucas di Grassi (29/BR), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #1 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Was on podium with Audi at Spa last year

“I’m very much looking forward to Spa because the track is simply great and our Audi R18 e-tron quattro is very well developed. For us, the second round will be about scoring as many points as possible for the manufacturers’ and drivers’ classifications in the WEC.”

Loïc Duval (31/F), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #1 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Won at Spa on his debut with Audi in 2012
- Finished as the runner-up last year

“The configuration of the track is unique. And I’ve got fond memories of my victory in Belgium on my debut with Audi two years ago. In the Ardennes, there’s always a possibility for rain and temperatures may be very cool. I’m eager to see what we’ll be able to achieve there. We’re going to battle for victory. Our motivation is high.”

Tom Kristensen (46/DK), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #1 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Set the fastest single lap at the WEC season opener in qualifying
- Together with Loïc Duval, travels to Spa as World Champion

“Every race driver looks forward to the challenge of mastering a track like Spa. We’ve got to finish and score many points. This is particularly important because our tally of points is still blank after Silverstone.”

Marcel Fässler (37/CH), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #2 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Has won six WEC rounds with his team-mates
- Has previously celebrated a 24-hour GT race victory at Spa

“I always look forward to Spa. This is my favorite race track, no matter what car I drive there. In the Audi R18 e-tron quattro, this will be a special pleasure. Last year, we achieved victory there. At Silverstone, we were also able to drive a good pace. That’s why I’m confident that this time we’ll again be looking good at Spa.”

André Lotterer (32/D), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #2 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Is driving together with Marcel Fässler and Benoît Tréluyer for the fifth year
- Set the fastest race lap in the season opener at Silverstone

“In 2013, we saw an outstanding race at Spa. I’m hoping that we’ll be able to

continue this form this year. This is one of my favorite tracks. I grew up in Belgium and still feel at home there. I'm highly motivated to drive there. We've got a lot of ground to make up."

Benoît Tréluyer (37/F), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #2 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Won at Spa last year with Marcel Fässler and André Lotterer
- Is driving together with his team-mates for the fifth year

"At Spa, we're continuing our competition with the other four hybrid sports cars and the other entrants. At Silverstone, we had a very good beginning of the race. That made the fact that we didn't finish even more regrettable. I'm very eager to see our potential across a full race distance."

Filipe Albuquerque (28/P), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #3 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Is celebrating his WEC debut with Audi at Spa
- Looks forward to gathering a lot of driving practice with team-mate Marco Bonanomi

"Following all the tests, I'm now excited about my first race in the Audi R18 e-tron quattro. We prepared step by step and are hoping for a good race. The car is great fun. I can hardly wait for my stint."

Marco Bonanomi (29/I), Audi R18 e-tron quattro #3 (Audi Sport Team Joest)

- Was on podium at Spa in 2012 on his WEC debut with Audi
- In the Ardennes, is contesting his first race in the 2014 season

"I'm very happy about being able to race for Audi again. We'll be driving a car with different aerodynamics than the two sister race cars. We do this to prepare for our Le Mans commitment. After our tests with this body version, I'm confident. And within the squad of Audi Sport, Audi Sport Team Joest and among the drivers the atmosphere is good, too."

The Audi drivers at Spa

Filipe Albuquerque (P): * Jun 13, 1985 in Coimbra (P); residence: Coimbra (P); single (partner: Joana); height: 1.74 m; weight: 65 kg; Audi driver since 2011; Le Mans victories: 0; WEC races: 0; WEC victories: 0; WEC pole positions: 0; fastest WEC laps: 0; best result WEC Spa: –

Marco Bonanomi (I): * Dec 12, 1985 in Lecco (I); residence: Colle Brianza (I); single; height: 1.76 m; weight: 69 kg; Audi driver since 2011; Le Mans victories: 0; WEC races: 2; WEC victories: 0; WEC pole positions: 0; fastest WEC laps: 0; best result WEC Spa: 3

Lucas di Grassi (BR): * Aug 11, 1984 in São Paulo (BR), residence: Monaco (MC);

married to Anna; height: 1.79 m; weight: 75 kg; Audi driver since 2012; Le Mans victories: 0; WEC races: 4; WEC victories: 0; WEC pole positions: 0; fastest WEC laps: 1; best result WEC Spa: 3

Loïc Duval (F): * Jun 12, 1982 in Chartres (F); residence: Geneva (CH); married to Gaëlle, one son (Hugo); height: 1.78 m; weight: 70 kg; Audi driver since 2012; Le Mans victories: 1; WEC races: 12; WEC victories: 4; WEC pole positions: 2; fastest WEC laps: 1; best result WEC Spa: 1

Marcel Fässler (CH): * May 27, 1976 in Einsiedeln (CH); residence: Gross (CH); married to Isabel, four daughters (Shana, Elin, Yael and Delia); height: 1.78 m; weight: 78 kg; Audi driver since 2008; Le Mans victories: 2; WEC races: 17; WEC victories: 6; WEC pole positions: 2; fastest WEC laps: 1; best result WEC Spa: 1

Tom Kristensen (DK): * Jul 07, 1967 in Hobro (DK); residence: Monaco (MC); single (partner: Hanne), two sons (Oliver and Oswald) and one daughter (Carla Marlou); height: 1.74 m; weight: 72 kg; Audi driver since 2000, Le Mans victories: 9; WEC races: 17; WEC victories: 4; WEC pole positions: 0; fastest WEC laps: 2; best result WEC Spa: 2

André Lotterer (D): * Nov 19, 1981 in Duisburg (D); residence: Tokyo (J); single; height: 1.84 m; weight: 74 kg; Audi driver since 2010; Le Mans victories: 2; WEC races: 17; WEC victories: 6; WEC pole positions: 4; fastest WEC laps: 5; best result WEC Spa: 1

Benoît Tréluyer (F): * Dec 07, 1976 in Alençon (F); residence: Gordes (F); married to Melanie, one son (Jules); height: 1.78 m; weight: 68 kg; Audi driver since 2010; Le Mans victories: 2; WEC races: 17; WEC victories: 6; WEC pole positions: 3; fastest WEC laps: 2; best result WEC Spa: 1

All Spa winners (since 2003)

2003 Seiji Ara/Tom Kristensen (Audi)

2004 Jamie Davies/Johnny Herbert (Audi)

2005 Casper Elgaard/John Nielsen/Hayanari Shimoda (Zytek)

2006 Jean-Christophe Boullion/Emmanuel Collard (Pescarolo)

2007 Pedro Lamy/Stéphane Sarrazin (Peugeot)

2008 Marc Gené/Nicolas Minassian/Jacques Villeneuve (Peugeot)

2009 Christian Klien/Nicolas Minassian/Simon Pagenaud (Peugeot)

2010 Sébastien Bourdais/Pedro Lamy/Simon Pagenaud (Peugeot)

2011 Anthony Davidson/Marc Gené/Alexander Wurz (Peugeot)

2012 Romain Dumas/Loïc Duval/Marc Gené (Audi)

2013 Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/Benoît Tréluyer (Audi)

Track info

Track length: 7.004 km

Race duration: 6 hours

Qualifying record on this track: Sébastien Bourdais (Peugeot), 1m 57.884s
(213.892 km/h), May 08, 2010

Race record on this track: Franck Montagny (Peugeot), 1m 59.797s (210.476 km/h),
May 09, 2010

Pole position 2013: Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer (Audi), 1m 59.961s (210.188
km/h), May 03, 2013

Fastest lap 2013: André Lotterer (Audi), 2m 00.435s (209.361 km/h), May 04,
2013

FIA WEC World Championship titles

2012 Marcel Fässler/André Lotterer/Benoît Tréluyer (Audi)

2013 Loïc Duval/Tom Kristensen/Allan McNish (Audi)

Filipe Albuquerque about the track at Spa

“The track has everything with its slow, medium and high-speed corners. As a result, we have to make compromises with the set-up. However, we are rewarded with one of the most wonderful circuits on the calendar. Eau Rouge is an amazing experience for any race driver. Pouhon will be very exciting since the double left will be great fun with the well-balanced new Audi R18 e-tron quattro. In general, the curbs are so flat at Spa that they become part of the racing line – except on the inside of Blanchimont. Overall, you can find a good rhythm at Spa. The overtaking opportunities are also very good: La Source, after Eau Rouge, in the Campus Chicane, and obviously a lot is possible on entering the final chicane.”

Schedule

Friday, May 2

09.00–11.00 Free practice 1

14.15–16.15 Free practice 2

20.00–20.30 Qualifying LMP1 and LMP2

Saturday, May 3

14.30–20.30 6-hour race

– End –



The Audi Group delivered approximately 1,575,500 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2013. In 2013 the company reported revenue of €49.9 billion and an operating profit of €5.03 billion. The company is globally operating in more than 100 markets with production facilities in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium), Bratislava (Slovakia), Martorell (Spain), Kaluga (Russia), Aurangabad (India), Changchun (China) and Jakarta (Indonesia). Since December 2013, the brand with the Four Rings has been producing cars also in Foshan (China). In 2015, Audi will start production in São José dos Pinhais (Brazil), followed by San José Chiapa (Mexico) in 2016. Wholly owned subsidiaries of AUDI AG include quattro GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy), the sports motorcycle manufacturer. The company currently employs more than 73,500 people worldwide, thereof more than 52,500 in Germany. Total investment of around €22 billion is planned from 2014 to 2018 – primarily in new products and sustainable technologies. Audi is committed to its corporate responsibility and has anchored the principle of sustainability for its products and processes in its strategy. The long-term goal is CO₂-neutral mobility.