

Communications Motorsport

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Audi targets third successive Zandvoort win

- **Dutch DTM track suits Audi especially well**
- **Four Zandvoort winners in the Audi driver squad**
- **Championship leader Timo Scheider regarded as Zandvoort specialist**

Ingolstadt – If there is one track on which Audi feels particularly at home then it is Zandvoort. Audi won three of the last four DTM races on the circuit around the sand dunes on the North Sea coast of Holland. Last year Audi even filled the top-four positions. The anticipation for the sixth race of the 2008 DTM season is correspondingly great in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm.

Three of the four Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline drivers have already won a DTM race in Zandvoort: Mattias Ekström celebrated his first DTM victory there in 2002. In 2004 he triumphed again on the way to clinching his first DTM title. In 2006 Tom Kristensen won and in 2007 the winner was Martin Tomczyk.

Only Timo Scheider has yet to mount the DTM podium in Zandvoort. The current championship leader is, however, regarded as a Zandvoort specialist: He has already claimed pole position twice on the extremely challenging circuit. Last year he dominated every practice session. For this reason, Scheider travels to the North Sea with a clear goal: He aims to increase his series lead by taking his maiden Zandvoort win.

The foundations are good: The new Audi A4 DTM, which started its 2008 campaign with a one-two-three in April at Hockenheim, should be able to

exploit its technical advantages to the maximum around circuits with many corners – and there are enough corners at Zandvoort. Additionally, the 2008 A4 will be lighter than the current Mercedes for the first time.

The drivers of last year's A4 also expect to have a much better chance in Zandvoort than last time out at the Norisring. Oliver Jarvis, Alexandre Prémat, Mike Rockenfeller and Markus Winkelhock judge the Netherlands track to be one of their favourites.

Christijan Albers won the Zandvoort DTM race in 2003. However, with his two-year-old Audi A4 DTM he is considered an outside bet this time around; despite this, the Dutchman aims to shine in front of his local fans. Zandvoort is new terrain for his team mate Katherine Legge. She will certainly have one reason to celebrate on the North Sea: It is the Briton's birthday on qualifying day.

Due to TV coverage of the Tour de France the battle for pole position begins on Saturday at 5:43 p.m. local time, the race on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. local – therefore an hour earlier than usual. ARD broadcasts qualifying and the race live on "Das Erste". Free practice is broadcast on www.dtm.tv in the internet. Highlights and background stories can be seen on www.audi.tv

Quotes before the race at the Zandvoort

Dr Wolfgang Ullrich (Head of Audi Motorsport): "The fact that Zandvoort has always suited our cars over the years and because of what we have seen over the course of the 2008 season to date, I'm very confident that we'll be able to deliver the goods at Zandvoort. We want to use this opportunity to score as many points as possible for Audi."

Mattias Ekström (Red Bull Audi A4 DTM #1): "I'm looking forward to Zandvoort. I won my first DTM race there in 2002. I'll be 30 years old there on race day and will try to give myself a perfect present."

Martin Tomczyk (Red Bull Audi A4 DTM #2): "Zandvoort was always an excellent hunting ground for Audi. I've got fond memories of Zandvoort, especially as a result of the perfect team work last year. I hope that I can forget the misery of Norisring as quickly as possible and that things run better for me again in Zandvoort."



Tom Kristensen (Audi A4 DTM #9): "Zandvoort is a wonderful race track located in beautiful surroundings which remind me a little of Denmark. Audi is traditionally very strong on twisty circuits, which is why I'm looking forward to driving our 2008 A4 there. As our car will also be a little lighter, I can see the chance that the podium will be full of Audi drivers."

Timo Scheider (GW:plus/Top Service Audi A4 DTM #10): "I'm looking for the dunes in Zandvoort enormously. I still have a score to settle there, especially as I took pole-position twice already. After dominating every practice session last year, I want to go one better this time and win the race as well. Our A4 should be very strong in Zandvoort."

Alexandre Prémat (Audi Bank/Shell Helix Audi A4 DTM #14): "It's very satisfying for me to come to Zandvoort again. It's as good as a home race for me. I love the circuit and the atmosphere. I won there in Formula 3 and almost won the DTM race there last year. I've purposely saved extra tyres for Zandvoort. I hope it pays off."

Oliver Jarvis (Best Buddies Audi A4 DTM #15): "I won the opening race of the A1GP season in Zandvoort last year and obviously have good memories. I can hardly wait to drive on a circuit that I know. I want to score big points!"

Mike Rockenfeller (S line Audi A4 DTM #18): "The circuit suits our car better than at the Norisring. I also like Zandvoort and I've always been quick there. Zandvoort is a real driver's circuit. It's always good to come to Zandvoort."

Markus Winkelhock (Playboy Audi A4 DTM #19): "I've always liked the Zandvoort circuit. I think that we'll also be okay with our year-old Audis, after all one did win there in 2007. We'll have a car with which we can score points."

Katherine Legge (Audi A4 DTM #20): "I only know Zandvoort from the television and have done a few laps on the computer. I'm already very intrigued to see it as I've heard that the circuit should suit our car better than the Norisring. It's always interesting to get to know a new circuit."

Christijan Albers (Audi A4 DTM #21): "It's always a great feeling to race in your home race. The public and the atmosphere at Zandvoort are fantastic. Hopefully the weather will also be good for the fans. It won't be easy for us with the 2006 cars, but we'll give the maximum to bring home a good result."

Hans-Jürgen Abt (Team Director Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline):

“Zandvoort is one of the highlights on the calendar – especially for Audi. Last year we even occupied the top four positions. We have an excellent base from which we expect to bring home a fantastic result. The season only really now begins for us. We are going to up the ante!”

Ernst Moser (Team Director Audi Sport Team Phoenix): “Zandvoort suits us a lot better than the Norisring. Our drivers love Zandvoort and are looking forward to it. As a team we’ve always been able to get good results in Zandvoort. We aim to build on this. We can achieve a great deal in Zandvoort.”

Arno Zensen (Team Director Audi Sport Team Rosberg): “Zandvoort has always been good for surprises. The sand from the dunes blowing across the circuit constantly creates new track conditions. It is beautiful there. The track runs up and downhill. Zandvoort is a driver’s circuit which we are looking forward to.”

The schedule at Zandvoort

Friday, 11 July

09:00 – 09:15 hrs	Roll-out
10:15 – 11:45 hrs	Test 1
15:00 – 16:30 hrs	Test 2

Saturday, 12 July

11:10 – 12:10 hrs	Free Practice
17:46 – 18:33 hrs	Qualifying (live on “Das Erste” starting at 17:43)

Sunday, 13 July

10:50 – 11:10 hrs	Warm-up
13:03 hrs	Race (live on “Das Erste” starting at 12:45)

DTM drivers’ standings after 5 of 11 rounds:

1 Timo Scheider	GW:plus/Top Service Audi A4 DTM	32
2 Jamie Green	Mercedes	31
3 Paul di Resta	Mercedes	27
4 Mattias Ekström	Red Bull Audi A4 DTM	25
5 Bruno Spengler	Mercedes	22
6 Martin Tomczyk	Red Bull Audi A4 DTM	17



7 Tom Kristensen	Audi A4 DTM	14
8 Bernd Schneider	Mercedes	11
9 Markus Winkelhock	Playboy Audi A4 DTM	5
10 Oliver Jarvis	Best Buddies Audi A4 DTM	5
11 Mike Rockenfeller	S line Audi A4 DTM	2
12 Gary Paffett	Mercedes	2
13 Alexandre Prémat	Audi Bank/Shell Helix Audi A4 DTM	1
14 Mathias Lauda	Mercedes	1

DTM team standings after 5 of 11 rounds:

1 Mercedes-Benz Bank AMG Mercedes	49
2 Audi Sport Team Abt	46
3 Salzgitter/Original-Teile AMG Mercedes	42
3 Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline	42
5 Audi Sport Team Rosberg	7
6 Audi Sport Team Phoenix	6
7 stern/Pixum AMG Mercedes	3

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

AUDI AG sold a total of 964,151 cars in 2007 and thus achieved its twelfth consecutive record year. With revenue of €33,617 million and profit before tax of €2,915 million, the company attained its best figures ever. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Győr (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). At the end of 2007, production of the Audi A6 started in Aurangabad, India. 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 employs about 54,000 people worldwide, including 45,000 in Germany. The brand with the four rings invests more than €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, from the 26 currently on offer to 40.