

## Communications Motorsport

Jürgen Pippig  
Telephone: +49 (0)841 89 34200  
E-mail: motorsport-media@audi.de

Eva-Maria Veith  
Telephone: +49 (0)841 89 33922  
E-mail: eva-maria.veith@audi.de

April 2, 2009

## Bernhard and Dumas reinforce Audi at Le Mans

- **Porsche endurance specialists to compete in new R15 TDI**
- **Audi driver lineup for 24 Hours of Le Mans now complete**

**Ingolstadt/Stuttgart – The Audi driver lineup for the 24 Hours of Le Mans is complete: by signing Timo Bernhard (28/Germany) and Romain Dumas (31/France) Audi managed to engage two absolute endurance specialists for the most important sports car race of the year.**

Driving a Porsche RS Spyder Bernhard and Dumas were the most successful driver pairing in the LMP2 class of the American Le Mans Series in the past three years. They clinched a total of nine overall victories for Porsche and, ultimately, won the LMP2 title twice in a row.

“Without a doubt, Timo and Romain rank among the world’s best sports car drivers,” says Head of Audi Motorsport Dr. Wolfgang Ullrich. “We’ve come to know them in the American Le Mans Series as tough but fair rivals and are pleased that within the Group the opportunity now presents itself to have them race for us at Le Mans. We’re convinced that Timo and Romain will definitely strengthen our driver squad. With victories at the 12-hour race at Sebring, the 24-hour race at Daytona and at the 24-hour race at the Nürburgring under their belts they’ve already proven their skills as real endurance specialists.”

Le Mans is not unknown territory for the two Porsche “factory” drivers either: Bernhard has so far contested the French endurance classic three times and in 2002, at his Le Mans debut, celebrated victory in the GT class straight away. Dumas has started from the Le Mans grid as many as eight times – most recently twice in an LMP1 car entered by the Pescarolo team in which he finished third overall in 2007.



“Winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans is any sports car driver’s dream, that’s why we are extremely happy about the opportunity to contest Le Mans for Audi,” unanimously say both Porsche “factory” drivers. “Both of us are really excited and looking forward to the Audi R15 TDI.”

The two will test AUDI AG’s new diesel racing sports car that won at its debut event, the 12-hour Race at Sebring (USA), right away as early as in April. The combinations of the total of nine Audi drivers starting from the grid at Le Mans on June 13/14 will be decided in the next few weeks.

With Timo Bernhard (Germany), Dindo Capello (Italy), Romain Dumas (France), Tom Kristensen (Denmark), Lucas Luhr (Germany), Allan McNish (Scotland), Alexandre Prémat (France), Mike Rockenfeller (Germany) and Marco Werner (Germany) Audi Sport Team Joest’s driver lineup is arguably as powerful as it can be.

- Ends -

**Photographs and information available at [www.audi-motorsport.info](http://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 40. 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!”).